

system (including how information is sent between emission-related system modules and other modules on a multiplexed bus),

(11) Any information regarding any system, component, or part of a vehicle monitored by the OBD system that could in a failure mode cause the OBD system to illuminate the malfunction indicator light (MIL).

(12) Any other information relevant to the diagnosis and completion of an emissions-related repair. This information includes, but is not limited to, information needed to start the vehicle when the vehicle is equipped with an anti-theft or similar system that disables the engine described below in paragraph (13). This information also includes any OEM-specific emissions-related diagnostic trouble codes (DTCs) and any related service bulletins, trouble shooting guides, and/or repair procedures associated with these OEM-specific DTCs.

(13) OEMs shall make available computer or anti-theft system initialization information necessary for the proper installation of on-board computers on motor vehicles that employ integral vehicle security systems or the repair or replacement of any other emission-related part. OEMs are not required to make this information available on the OEM's Web site unless they choose to do so. However, the OEM's Web site shall contain information on alternate means for obtaining the information and/or ability to perform reinitialization. Beginning with the 2008 model year, we require that all OEM systems will be designed in such a way that no special tools or processes will be necessary to perform re-initialization. In other words, EPA expects that the re-initialization of vehicles can be completed with generic aftermarket tools, a pass-through device, or an inexpensive OEM-specific cable. This model year cut-off is consistent with the requirement to complete the phase-in of the SAE J2284-3 CAN requirement as discussed in section 18 of this document. An OEM may request Administrator approval for an alternative means to re-initialize vehicles for some or all model years through the 2007 model year. The complete regulatory requirements for requesting approval can be found in Sections 86.096-38(g)(6) and 86.1808-01(f)(6).

Information for making emission-related repairs does not include information used to design and manufacture parts, but may include OEM changes to internal calibrations, and other indirect information, as discussed below.

We also believe that OEMs are accountable for the accuracy of their service information, for both their dealerships and the aftermarket repair industry. Moving toward Internet-based delivery of service information should increase the ability of OEMs to more quickly respond to errors in their service information and provide updates to the required information for all interested parties in a timely manner.

B. What Are the Requirements for Web-Based Delivery of the Required Information Under This Final Rule?

1. OEM Web Sites

Today's action finalizes a provision that requires OEMs to make available in full-text all of the information outlined above, on individual OEM Web sites. The only exceptions to the full-text requirements are training information, anti-theft information, and indirect information. Provisions for the availability of training information is discussed in section II(D) of this document. Provisions for the availability of anti-theft information is discussed in section II.A(13). Provisions regarding indirect information are discussed in section II.E through II.I of this document. OEM Web sites must be launched six months after the date of publication of this rulemaking. OEMs may request from the Administrator up to an additional six months to launch their Web sites.

2. Timeliness and Maintenance of Information on OEM Web Sites

Today's action finalizes a provision that requires OEMs to make available the required information on their Web site within six months of model introduction. After this six month period, the required information for each model must be available and updated on the OEM Web site at the same time it is available by any means to their dealers.

EPA is also finalizing a provision that, beginning with the 1996 model year, OEMs maintain the required information in full text for at least 15 years after model introduction. After this fifteen-year period, OEMs can archive the required service information, but it must be made available upon request, in a format of the OEM's choice (e.g. CD-ROM).

3. Accessibility, Reporting and Performance Requirements for OEM Web Sites

(a) Accessibility Requirements. EPA is finalizing the following provisions for accessibility to OEM Web sites. Each OEM shall:

(1) Provide users with a description of the minimum computer hardware and software needed by the user to access that OEM's information (e.g., computer processor speed and operating system software). This description shall appear when users first log-on to the home page of the OEM's Web site.

(2) Allow the user to search the OEM Web site by various topics including but not limited to model, model year, key words or phrases, etc., while allowing ready identification of the latest vehicle calibration. OEMs who do not use model year to classify their vehicles in their service information may use an alternate vehicle delineation such as body series. Any OEM utilizing this flexibility shall create a cross-reference to the corresponding model year and provide this cross-reference on the OEM Web site home page.

(3) Provide accessibility using common, readily available software and shall not require the use of proprietary software, hardware, viewers, or browsers. The OEM Web site shall also provide hyperlinks to any plug-ins, viewers or browsers (e.g. Adobe Acrobat or Netscape) needed to access the OEM Web site.

(4) Allow access to the OEM Web sites with no limits on the modem speed by which aftermarket service providers or other interested parties can connect to the OEM Web site.

(b) Performance and Reporting Requirements. Today's action finalizes a provision that requires OEMs to report on the performance of their Web sites. OEMs shall monitor the following parameters:

(1) Total successful requests (measured in number of files including graphic interchange formats (GIFs) and joint photographic expert group (JPEG) images, i.e., electronic images such as wiring or other diagrams or pictures). This is defined as the total successful request counts of all the files which have been requested, including pages, graphics, etc.

(2) Total failed requests (measured in number of files). This is defined as the total failed request counts of all the files which were requested but failed because they could not be found or were read-protected. This includes pages, graphics, etc.

(3) Average data transferred per day (measured by bytes). This is defined as average amount of data transferred per day from one place to another.

(4) Daily Summary (measured in number of files/pages by day of week). This is defined as the total number of requests each day of the week, over the time period given at the beginning of the report.