



**BJA** Bureau of Justice Assistance



**Policy Clarification Regarding Insurance Carrier Reporting of Salvage Information  
(including total loss designations)**

**Date Issued: February 13, 2009**

Shredders and other recyclers who receive vehicles in a crushed or condensed state that generally would prevent VINs from being identified are not required to report these specific vehicles to the operator if they determine that their supplier has already reported the vehicle to NMVTIS. Shredders and other recyclers who rely upon this exception to reporting should maintain documentation supporting their determination. Acceptable methods of making this determination include:

- Having the supplier provide a written/signed assurance or other written documentation that certifies that the vehicle or vehicles were reported to NMVTIS (e.g., a signature on a manifest/invoice or title document with a stamped or printed statement indicating prior reporting of vehicles to NMVTIS);
- Verifying via [www.nmvtis.gov](http://www.nmvtis.gov) that the supplier is currently reporting information to NMVTIS. This list will be updated monthly based on data reported. It is recommended that the recycler retain a print out of the positive indication of reporting status and retain this in their files for that supplier. Additionally, shredders must check [www.nmvtis.gov](http://www.nmvtis.gov) on at least a monthly basis to confirm that their supplier is consistently reporting to NMVTIS on at least a monthly basis.
- Checking NMVTIS to determine that the supplier has reported the vehicle's status as sold to shredder based on a VIN provided by the supplier. (Vehicles with no NMVTIS history of having been sold to a shredder have not been adequately reported.)

In cases where a supplier's compliance with NMVTIS cannot be ascertained as outlined here, however, scrap metal processors and shredders must report these vehicles to the operator based on a visual inspection if possible. If the VIN cannot be determined based on this inspection, scrap metal processors and shredders may rely on primary documentation (i.e., title documents) provided by the vehicle supplier to report to NMVTIS.

For more information on this clarification or NMVTIS, e-mail [nmvtis@usdoj.gov](mailto:nmvtis@usdoj.gov) or visit [www.nmvtis.gov](http://www.nmvtis.gov).