SMOG CHECK PROGRAM
UPDATE

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BAR
Bureau of Automotive Repair

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ENGINEERING & RESEARCH BRANCH
BAR ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
JANUARY 17, 2019
BAR-97 DIALUP TO IP ROLLOUT

• Regulations adopted on 8/2/2018.
• Internet connection software Beta started on 10/13/2017.
• First vendor’s software certified on 1/25/2018.
• Q&As published.
• Multiple ET Blasts sent.
• Dialup analyzers locked from performing inspections on 11/1/2018.
• Analyzers still VID-connected until late January to support certificate inventory synchronization.
• Currently over 4,000 analyzers using Internet connection.
OBD DEFEAT DEVICES

• BAR ET Blast - April 4, 2018
• BAR is taking aggressive action against stations using OBD defeat devices.
  • BAR conducts statewide inspections targeting use of OBD defeat devices
  • BAR has initiated over 400 admin/criminal cases
  • Working with District Attorneys to secure search warrants and seize devices
  • BAR continues certificate blocking and Referee direction for inspections showing irregular data
OBD DEFEAT DEVICES (CONTINUED)

- Simple simulators are stand-alone devices that mimic a vehicle’s OBD data.
- Pass-through devices alter a failing vehicle’s OBD data.
- Both allow vehicles that would otherwise fail an inspection to pass instead.
ADDRESSING OBD FRAUD

• Certificate blocking
• Referee direction
• Administrative actions
• Criminal prosecution
CERTIFICATE BLOCKING AUTHORITY

• Health and Safety Code Section 44036(b)(3)(K) authorizes BAR to develop:

A real-time computer data program that prevents a certificate of compliance from being issued if a vehicle is identified as having an excessive variance from computer data for that vehicle, mismatched information, or other irregularities.
IMPACT OF CERTIFICATE BLOCKING

• 1,557 vehicles directed to the Referee in the last 30 days.
• Over 14,000 vehicles directed since January 2018.
• About half of the directed vehicles eventually get tested by the Referee.
  • Others likely retired, moved out of state, operating unregistered, improperly registered
BAR-OIS UPDATE PLANS

• New Data Acquisition Device (DAD)
  • Enhanced data collection ability to better detect fraud where surrogate vehicle or electronic data simulator used.
  • Embedded GPS to identify DAD location.
• Webcam
  • Prompts user to “video chat” with BAR/Referee when irregularity (potential fraud) detected.
• Biometric Device
  • Finger vein scanner used in addition to password.
  • Positively identifies user performing Smog Check inspection.
  • Positive user identification necessary for criminal prosecution.
  • Enhanced capabilities could help ensure inspectors that actually took an exam are the ones performing the inspection.
2017 SPECIFICATION UPDATE FOR BAR-97

- BAR testing software updates that will make analyzers fully compliant with 2017 specification.
- Software installation in all analyzers planned for March 20, 2019.
- Update captures LPFET data through the analyzer.
  - After statewide installation, BAR will update LPFET hardware, so phone line is no longer needed.
  - BAR will disable offline testing after 2017 software installed.
- ET Blasts on cutover schedule coming soon.
FUTURE BAR-97 UPDATE PLANS

• Certificate blocking similar to BAR-OIS.
  • Fraud detected, BAR prevents issuance of certificate and marks vehicle for Referee inspection.

• Biometric Device
  • Finger vein scanner used in addition to password.
PERMANENT DIAGNOSTIC TROUBLE CODES

• BAG presentation and workshop on April 19, 2018.
• Planning to incorporate into Smog Check Program in Summer 2019.
• BAR working with ARB to ID vehicles with OBD data not meeting SAE specification and to get vehicle computers reflashed to correct errors.
• ET Blasts on implementation schedule coming soon.
QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

Submit questions and/or comments to:

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