



WARNERS
GROUP PUBLICATIONS P.L.C.
West Street, Bourne,
Lincolnshire PE10 9PH

EDITORIAL

Editor: S. Goodwin
Tel: 01707 885439
Fax: 01707 696034

E-mail: taxiglobeeditor@warnersgroup.co.uk

DISPLAY & CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Sarah Hubbard
Advertising Manager
Tel: 01778 392048
Fax: 01778 392079

E-mail: sarahh@warnersgroup.co.uk

PUBLISHER

Jackie Green

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DND Transport Services Ltd.
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PRODUCTION

Zone 1 Media LLP
Tel: 01462 491134
Fax: 01462 491137

E-mail: pauline@zone1media.co.uk

ACCOUNTS & CREDIT CONTROL

Caroline Harris
Tel: 01778 391023

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LTI RECALL INFORMATION

all TX4s, to have work carried out including the fitting of a new EGR pipe with heat shield. This recall and the lead up to it, including the initial investigation, has been carried out in line with VOSA best practise and with VOSA full awareness of the actions being taken. The recall notice is issued under VOSA's recall guidelines. LTI state: "It is important that all concerned understand that the recall on TX4s has not been mandated by VOSA as being necessary to have vehicles taken off the road. The decision to take vehicles off the road has been taken by the individual licensing authorities concerned.

"The recall will be conducted as a staged process and will begin with the earliest VIN first and then worked through in ascending order to ensure the vehicles are dealt with in build date order. This is important to capture the earliest vehicles first which are also the vehicles that have had their licences suspended."

LTI are sending out letters to customers with vehicles in the VIN range 200000 to 201500 during the course of the next few weeks and expect to complete the rework following that, depending on parts availability. After the initial batch of letters has been issued, LTI will review the programme before continuing with contacting the next batch of customers for the rework to be carried out on their vehicles. Drivers in London are being contacted by Mann & Overton London in VIN order to book time slots for the work to be carried out. Once the work has been completed, Mann & Overton will issue a stamped certificate and the vehicle licence will be reinstated. This has been agreed on 3rd October with London's Public Carriage Office who has issued a Notice to all taxi owners affected by the suspension.

REQUESTS FOR COMPENSATION

LTI are starting to receive a few requests to consider compensation. The company say: "This is understandable. Our whole focus has been, rightly, on trying to

resolve the issues as quickly and effectively as possible. Now that we have announced measures to deal with those issues we can now start to look at where responsibility lies for the losses that various parties (including LTI) have suffered."

In the event that any person believes that they have suffered loss as a result of the recent events LTI suggest the following practical actions: -

- * Record and keep evidence of all losses;
- * Do what you can to reduce losses, e.g. sharing/hiring a taxi when your usual vehicle is actually affected;
- * Consider who has actually caused the losses to occur;
- * Wait until the losses have come to an end (or at least can be determined) before making a claim, so that, if recoverable, some of the losses are not missed by making a claim too soon;
- * In any letter of claim set out in as much detail as possible the following: -
 - o Details of the vehicle affected and in particular the Vehicle Identification Number ("VIN");
 - o The circumstances of the claim, for example the date and time when the vehicle is alleged to have been out of use;
 - o Any alleged losses; how they were calculated; and documentation in support;
 - o Servicing history;
 - o Receipts of purchase.

Once again LTI would like to thank drivers for their patience during this difficult time and can assure them that all possible progress is being made to get them back to work as soon as possible.

TX4 TAXI LICENCES TO BE RE-INSTATED

The PCO has confirmed that the suspension of cab licences will be lifted when remedial works completed and cabs are certified by London Taxis International.

The cab licences of all TX4s with a 56 registration or a Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) between 200001 and 201000 were suspended following a number of

fires involving early production models of the taxi. LTI have developed a programme of remedial works which they consider, when complete, will minimise the risk of under bonnet fires. The licence suspension will be lifted as soon as individual vehicles have been certified by LTI as having undergone the necessary modifications.

Ed Thompson, Director of Taxi & Private Hire at the PCO, said: "This has been a really tough time for drivers, and I'm glad that we now have a solution. LTI have assured me they will be working around the clock to get as many cabs back on the roads as quickly as possible. Taxis in London have an excellent safety record. We're satisfied that the work LTI will be carrying out will minimise any risks to drivers, passengers and other road users."

The PCO brought in an independent fire safety expert who has confirmed the remedial works proposed by LTI will significantly reduce the risk of under bonnet fires, making these vehicles acceptable for use in passenger service.

LTI will be carrying out the following works:

- a. Replacing the Exhaust Gas Recirculation pipe
- b. Installing a heat shield over the Exhaust Gas Recirculation pipe
- c. Replacing the bulkhead Noise Vibration and Harshness pad with one of a new design and material
- d. Thoroughly inspecting all pipe runs and wiring for evidence of unusual wear, replacing where necessary
- e. Fitting a fire suppression system to rebuild driver and passenger confidence

If drivers have any questions they can call the LTI call centre on 0121 322 0710 or 0121 322 0709. Owners must ensure the LTI certification remains with the vehicle when it goes back into service. It must be presented to PCO officers during on-street compliance inspections or to SGS during an annual or mid-year inspection.

As Taxi Globe is a fortnightly publication, some TX4 taxi drivers and proprietors may have already heard from LTI and the PCO regarding the under bonnet fires. However, due to our publication dates, some may be reading this latest update for the first time.

UPDATE ISSUED ON 3RD OCTOBER 2008

LTI issued a further update on the latest situation with the TX4 recall on 3rd October 2008. LTI and VOSA have issued a recall notice on

