

### VACC Licensed Motor Trader guidance on recording odometer readings and dealing with odometer fraud

#### What is the issue?

Over the past 12 months VACC has communicated with many LMCT members who have been victim to acquiring a motor vehicle from a member of the public that has had its odometer tampered with (wound back). The issue is exacerbated for LMCTs when they have on-sold the vehicle.

VACC research shows that 44 percent of Victorian LMCTs have reported being victim to such consumer behaviour.

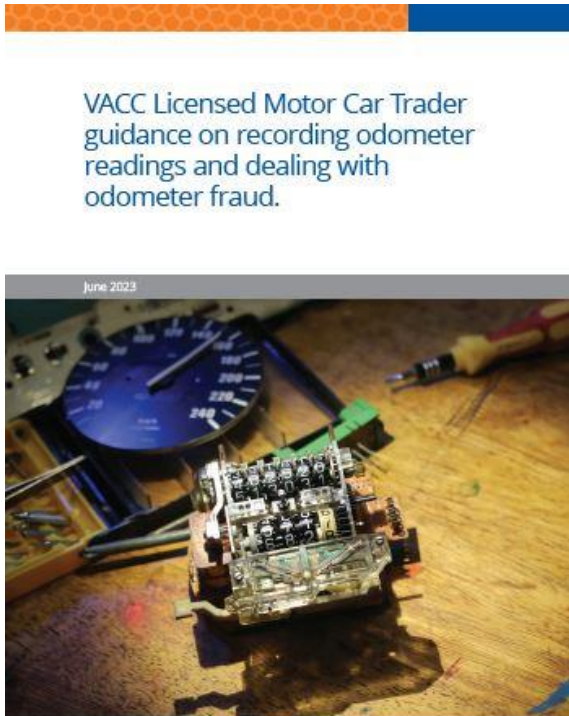
All LMCTs report to exposed to at least two instances per year from consumers trading vehicles with a wound back odometer. This is only what is identified by the LMCT, many vehicles escaping the LMCT onboarding of traded in vehicles.

#### How does this consumer behaviour impact LMCTs?

This leaves LMCTs in an invidious position. VACC members have been victim to many unscrupulous persons, with the issue reaching greater levels over the past two years as industry has been enjoying heightened trading conditions. However, the private-to-private market and unlicensed industry are largely held unaccountable for their actions in participating in winding back odometers. LMCTs must now be alert to and take action about such behaviour.

#### What has VACC done to assist LMCTs?

[VACC guidance](#) below has been developed to allow VACC LMCT members to be cognisant of their prescribed obligations under may different legislative instruments and to also provide industry with a pathway to follow if their LMCT business has become a victim to such a crime.



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1958 (Vic) to intervene in the private-to-private and unlicensed market and identify and prosecute perpetrators of this crime. The guidance material provides specific direction to dealers on what process to take when confronted with a vehicle traded to you with a wound back odometer.

### **Other**

Over recent days many members have called VACC to advise of the NSW Government decision to provide purchasers of vehicles in NSW with free access to vehicle odometer readings from 19 June 2023. VACC congratulates the NSW for the introduction of such an initiative. VACC has long pushed for a similar or same introduction for the access to historical odometer data for Victorian consumers and LMCTS.

VACC believes it to be prudent to manage member expectations as to the likelihood of this same type of system being introduced to Victoria under a 'no charge basis in Victoria. VACC has been in dialogue with the VicRoads Joint Venture Commercial Team seeking the delivery of odometer data as well as vehicle transfer and Roadworthy Certificate history extracted from the VicRoads Registration and Licensing system for Victorians. This is progressing well, however, provision of such data is likely to be monetised by VicRoads.

VACC continues to push for more proficient and sensible reform on behalf of Victorian LMCTS.

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