

# Mobile Maintenance Business Requirements

Authority Cited: California Health and Safety Code (HSC); Title 22 California Code of Regulations (CCR)

This document has been prepared as a brief summary to assist owners/operators of mobile service/repair businesses with hazardous waste compliance. This document is only a summary of California Health and Safety Code (HSC) and California Code of Regulations (CCR) requirements. Additional hazardous waste management information is available online at <https://dtsc.ca.gov>, <https://ehinfo.org>, and [www.unidocs.org](http://www.unidocs.org).

## A. What is a mobile maintenance business?

A mobile maintenance business is a business that provides service or maintenance to vehicles or other combustion engines (such as emergency generators) outside of a traditional fixed workspace. Commercial towing companies and the service of locations that meet the parameters of “remote sites” are not considered mobile maintenance businesses. *HSC 25121.3, 25110.10, 25163.3*

## B. Who is responsible for any waste generated from mobile maintenance business service?

The generator of a hazardous waste is “any person, by site, whose act or process produces hazardous waste...or whose act first causes a hazardous waste to become subject to regulation”. A person is a “individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, business concern, corporation, including, but not limited to, a government corporation, partnership and association.” *HSC section 25118 & 22 CCR, section 66260.10*

Unless expressly written into a contract, both the mobile maintenance business and the person/business for whom they are providing the service are jointly responsible for the proper management and disposal of any hazardous wastes. This concept is commonly known as “co-generation”. Regulators will first look to address compliance with the mobile maintenance business as it was their actions that produced the waste.

## C. What are the restrictions on operation of a mobile maintenance businesses?

Mobile maintenance businesses may NEVER bring hazardous waste to their home, even if the business is registered using a home address. Mobile maintenance businesses must maintain a valid business license and be able to demonstrate that one has been issued. Mobile maintenance businesses must conform with all local zoning rules. Mobile maintenance businesses must conduct their business in a manner that does not increase the likelihood of a release of hazardous waste to the environment or potentially harm humans or the environment.

## D. What types of wastes generated by mobile maintenance businesses are discussed in this document?

- Used oil
- Metal-cased used oil and fuel filters
- Paper/canister style oil filters
- Antifreeze
- Lead-acid automotive batteries
- Paint/Paint related wastes
- Aerosol cans
- Rags and wipes
- Contaminated absorbent materials

## E. How much waste can a mobile maintenance facility generate in a month?

There are no limits or restrictions on how much waste a mobile maintenance business may generate in any month. The more waste a mobile maintenance business generates, the more requirements there are. In this document, mobile maintenance businesses that generate less than 100 kg of all wastes (27 gallons/220 lbs) in a month will be referred to as Very Small Quantity Generators (VSQGs). VSQGs are generally allowed to self-transport wastes without being a registered hazardous waste hauler and have more options as to where wastes may be taken. Mobile maintenance businesses that generate between 100 kg (27 gal/200 lb) and 1000 kg (270 gal/2200 lb) in a month are Small Quantity Generators (SQGs) and generally must be registered hazardous waste transporters. Please see section F. below for specific rules and when they apply to VSQGs and SQGs. *22 CCR section 66260.10, HSC 25123.3(c) and (h)*

## F. What can a mobile maintenance business do with a waste once generated?

Mobile maintenance businesses have differing options for the management of waste. These options depend on the amount of waste the mobile maintenance business generates in a month, the type of waste(s) generated, and where the waste will ultimately be taken after it is generated.

	Absorbent materials <sup>4</sup>	Aerosol Cans <sup>10</sup>	Antifreeze	Lead acid batteries <sup>1</sup>	Metal cased filters <sup>2</sup>	Paint/solvent	Paper oil filters <sup>3</sup>	Rags/Wipes <sup>4</sup>	Used Oil
Bring back to “brick & mortar” location operated by MMB	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
Certified Used Oil Collection Center	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes <sup>5</sup>
Small Business/VSQG program at Household Hazardous Waste Facility <sup>6</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Permitted Hazardous Waste Disposal Site <sup>7</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Keep on the MMB vehicle <sup>8</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Leave with person/business being serviced <sup>9</sup>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

### Notes:

- Lead acid batteries may be transferred to any location (including a “brick & mortar” shop) that will (1) use, reuse, recycle or reclaim the battery or (2) stores the battery prior to shipping them off for use, reuse, recycling or reclaim. *22 CCR section 66266.81(a)(4)*
- Metal cased oil and fuel filters should be drained of all free-flowing oil and fuel. Filters may be punctured or crushed to facilitate draining. Once drained of the liquid, filters may be transferred to any location (including the maintenance shop and used oil collection centers) that will (1) recycle the metal for scrap value or (2) manage the filters prior to shipping them off for recycling for scrap metal

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value. Filters must be stored and transported in closed containers that can prevent a release if laid on its side. Containers must also be marked “used oil filters” or “used oil and fuel filters” and the date filters were placed in it. *22 CCR 66266.130, HSC 25250.22*

3. Unlike metal cased filters, there is no reduced management standard for cartridge style filters because there is no metal to be recycled. Waste filters should be packaged in containers of sound construction with tight fitting lids and have full hazardous waste labeling/markings.
4. The mobile maintenance business is responsible for making a waste determination regarding if a contaminated item (including single use wipe/paper rag and spill/drip clean-up absorbent) is a hazardous waste. If a contaminated item has been lightly used, and can still perform its purpose, it may be considered “in use” and not be classified as a waste. Upon determining that the item cannot or will not be re-used, the waste has been generated. Any contaminated items with ANY free flowing (dripping) oil must be managed as hazardous wastes.  
Rags which are launderable may be transported to and from a central shop without restriction. Please note that for launderable rags to maintain this freedom they must be laundered at a commercial laundry facility, and not at a home or coin-operated laundromat. *HSC section 25144.6*
5. Used oil may be transported by a VSQG or SQG mobile maintenance business to a Certified Used Oil Collection Center (UOCC). A maximum of 20 gallons may be transported, and all containers used to transport the oil must be 5 gallons or smaller unless prior approval from the UOCC is obtained. If the UOCC allows, up to 55 gallons, in a container of up to 55 gallons, may be transported to the location. *HSC section 25250.11*
6. Wastes may be taken by VSQG mobile maintenance businesses to a permitted HHW site that is holding a VSQG/Small business waste collection event. Wastes may be delivered during VSQG/Small business collection times only, and not during times reserved for household use. An appointment must be made for use of this option. A maximum of 27 gallons/200 lb of ALL wastes may be transported in any month. HHW sites have the right to charge a fee for the disposal of waste, at their discretion. Recyclable wastes used oil, antifreeze, batteries and metal cased filters do not count toward the 27 gal/200 lb limit. *HSC section 25218.5*
7. VSQGs may self-transport any waste to a permitted hazardous waste facility, with the facility’s approval. Waste quantities are limited to 5 gallons or 50 pounds per trip. There are no limits on the number of trips that may be made in a month. Permitted hazardous waste sites have the right to charge a fee for the disposal of waste, at their discretion. *HSC section 25163(c)*
8. Wastes may be left on the vehicle only during the day in which they were generated. Once the workday has ended, the waste is now in the course of transportation. A container of waste may be removed from the vehicle and held at an interim location for up to 6 days so long as the container is not opened, no new waste is added to the container, and the location where the container is held is zoned commercial or industrial. *HSC section 25123.3(b)(3)*
9. Wastes should be packaged in containers of sound construction with tight fitting lids and marked with the contents, hazards, physical state, the words “hazardous waste” and the date. The location being serviced shall immediately ensure that their location information is added. Containers should be stored in an agreed-to secure location or physically provided to the person being served.
10. Aerosol cans when completely empty of propellant and contents which would otherwise be hazardous may be managed as municipal waste (trash or recycle for metal value). If the aerosol cannot be emptied, it may be transported to any other universal waste handler or a destination facility. The cans must be stored in containers designed to be, and must be marked “universal waste- aerosol cans” *HSC section 25201.16, 22 CCR 66273.55*

## G. What other general rules do mobile maintenance businesses need to follow?

Mobile maintenance businesses must obtain and maintain an ID number. All mobile maintenance businesses must maintain adequate spill response materials and have posted in their work area emergency response contact information. Containers into which waste is placed must be DOT compliant, and a hazardous waste label identifying the generator's information (name and address), the contents of the container, the waste's hazards and physical state (solid or liquid). 22 CCR 66262.34

## H. Record Keeping

Unless expressly noted in this section records of generation and transport are not required to be maintained. While not required, it is **strongly recommended** that records of quantities and wastes managed are kept.

- All shipments of metal cased oil and fuel filters must be done using a bill of lading, and records must be maintained for three years (22 CCR 66266.130(c)(5)).
- All shipments of lead acid batteries must be done using a bill of lading, and records must be maintained for three years (22 CCR 66266.81(a)(4)(A)).

## I. Other Resources/Useful Links

Santa Clara County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facilities

[www.hhw.org](http://www.hhw.org)

Applying for an ID Number

<https://dtsc.ca.gov/apply-for-hazardous-waste-epa-id-number/>

Factsheets for individual specific wastes (e.g.: used oil and fuel filters)

<https://dtsc.ca.gov/publications-index/managing-waste-publications/>

General standards for generators of hazardous waste in Santa Clara County

<https://www.sccgov.org/sites/hazmat/Documents/hmcd-074.pdf>

General standards for automotive related wastes

<http://www.unidocs.org/hazmat/hazardous-waste/un-091.pdf>

Exempt Transfer facility requirements

[https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/02/Transportation\\_FS\\_Transfer\\_Facilities.pdf](https://dtsc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/31/2018/02/Transportation_FS_Transfer_Facilities.pdf)