



NEW PRE-REPAIR INSPECTION REQUIREMENT



We wish to inform you of an important change in procedures concerning the repair of motor vehicles involved in an accident.

From 1 May 2011, motorists making property damage claims to their vehicles must now give the potential defendants (i.e. the owner/s of the other vehicle/s involved in the motor accident) or their insurers an opportunity to inspect the damages to the vehicle, prior to the commencement of repairs. The potential defendant's insurers, upon receipt of notification on the location of the damaged vehicle, will conduct a **pre-repair inspection** on the damaged vehicle **within 2 working days** from the time of notification, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

If the **potential defendant's insurer** has however, waived the requirement for the pre-repair inspection, the claimants may proceed with the repairs. Under the Sub Courts Protocol, the potential defendant or his insurer will also have to compensate the claimant for loss of use of the vehicle for the period of the pre-repair inspection.

The requirement for pre-repair inspection is meant to **improve transparency** in the submission of third party damage claims by third party workshops on behalf of the owner of the vehicle. This will help all parties to agree on the extent of the damages and the necessary scope of the

repair to be done. This process will help to expedite the settlement of Third Party Claims and reduce claims costs in the long run. As claims costs are the major component of the motor insurance premium, the reduction of claims costs will benefit motorist in term of lower insurance premium.

This pre-repair inspection requirement is issued by the **Sub Courts** under the Pre-action Protocol for Non-Injury Motor Accident Cases. It is also a key recommendation of the **Motor Insurance Task Force**, which is co-chaired by CASE and AA Singapore with MAS, LTA, Traffic Police and GIA as members.

We therefore seek your understanding and cooperation to observe this new change so as not to prejudice your claim against third parties.

For more information on this new requirement, please visit www.gia.org.sg or contact your insurer.

