WHAT YOU OUGHT TO KNOW BEFORE BUYING A SECONDHAND VEHICLE

STOP USED CAR FRAUD!
WHO IS THE SELLER?

- It is preferable to buy from a professional car dealer who uses the standard sales contract as proposed by FEDERAUTO, TOURING and VAB.

- If you intend to buy from a private individual, it is a good idea to ask the seller if you can have a look at the car at his/her place and to check this person’s identity. Make sure that a mobile phone number is not your only tie with the seller.

WHICH DOCUMENTS?

- Only buy a car when the seller can produce the following official documents and make sure these are not forgeries:
  - Certificate of Registration
  - Certificate of Conformity

- If the seller (as legally provided for) has taken the car in for an inspection with a view to selling it, s/he should be able to produce a valid car inspection certificate.

- Do not accept any photocopy of these documents.

- It is an asset if the seller can also show the maintenance booklet.

- If you are going to buy the vehicle from a private individual, please ask to see the original purchase invoice.

- Should the latest registration have taken place abroad, the seller who is established in Belgium has to be able produce a 705 Customs seal, a valid car inspection certificate, the foreign Certificate of Registration, as well as an application form for a new registration number.
CHASSIS NUMBER?

- Make sure the stamped **chassis number** corresponds with the vehicle identification number which is mentioned on the car documents as well as on small plates elsewhere in the vehicle.

VISIBLE TAMPERING?

- Check by daylight **the door locks, the ignition lock** and **the chassis number** so as to spot any scratches and other irregularities. Such signs of tampering could suggest it is a stolen vehicle!

- Also make sure **the paint** is not clearer in certain spots or that it does not show remainders of another colour. That could mean the painting has been redone with spray paint.

- Furthermore, we recommend having the vehicle examined by a **diagnostic centre** or a **professional car dealer**.

KEYS?

- **Ask for all the keys** that should come with the car (if you are not a specialist in this matter, please contact an official distributor). If the seller is unable to produce all the keys, h/she is to give a reasonable explanation for that.

STATE OF THE MILOMETER?

- Check whether there is no discrepancy between the **mileage**, which is mentioned in the maintenance booklet as well as on the car inspection certificate, and the state of the milometer. In a near future, you may also ask the seller to show you a **certificate from the non-profit making association “CAR-PASS,”** a document which reads the latest recorded mileage of the car at the time it was being serviced, inspected or repaired.
EQUIPMENT?

- If the vehicle is equipped with an **alarm** (VV1, VV2, VV3) and/or an **after-theft system** (CJ1, CJ2), ask the seller to give a demonstration of the system. S/he must be acquainted with the system, as well as with all the other controls of the vehicle.

- Check if the **price** is in line with the condition of the car (you can always find the recommended price by looking in an automobile magazine). Besides, never buy a car in a hurry because the seller put you under pressure.

- If you have any doubts about the condition of the vehicle, please ask an official distributor/importer (mileage, maintenance, number of keys provided, important repairs) for advice.

SALES CONTRACT!

- When you buy a vehicle from a **private individual**, always draw up a **sales contract** in two copies, containing the details of the seller and buyer, as well as a description of the vehicle (**Model enclosed**!)

- If you buy a car from a **distributor**, this person is to give you an **invoice** in accordance with the Belgian VAT system. An initiative of the Permanent Secretariat for Prevention Policy, General Directorate Security and Prevention Policy, Federal Public Service Home Affairs, in association with the partners of the National Car Crime Platform.


www.vps.fgov.be
SALES CONTRACT BETWEEN PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS

Date of purchase: ……./……./………

Date of delivery: ……./……./………

SELLER

Last name: .................................................. First name: ........................................
Adresse: ..................................................................................................................
..................................................................................................................
..................................................................................................................
Phone: ..............................................................................................................
ID number: ........................................................................................................
Issuing country: .................................................................................................

BUYER

Last name: .................................................. First name: ........................................
Adresse: ..................................................................................................................
..................................................................................................................
..................................................................................................................
Phone: ..............................................................................................................
ID number: ........................................................................................................
Issuing country: .................................................................................................

CAR:

Make: .................................................. Type: ..................................................
Colour: .................................................. Date of manufacture: ….. ……….....
Cylinder capacity: .........................cc Engine power: ..............................kw
Chassis number: □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□
Date of the certificate of roadworthiness: …../……./………..
Current mileage: .........................
PROVIDED DOCUMENTS:

- CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

Number of the certificate of registration (front side):
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- CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMITY

- CAR INSPECTION CERTIFICATE

- MAINTENANCE BOOKLET

POSSIBLE DAMAGE & OPTIONS
(mention the operating condition of the options)
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SALES PRICE: ......................................................................................................................................................euro.

Signed in ................................................... on .............................................. in two copies.

AS AGREED,

The buyer,                                           The seller,