This document is intended to present the information consumers might need for a successful car purchase abroad and the registration in various European countries at the moment of publication and in the most user-friendly manner possible. It has no legal value however and the working group will not be held liable for any loss or cost incurred by reason of any person using or relying on the information in this publication.

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COUNTRY OF REGISTRATION

Czech Republic

Competent authority

The transport inspectorate at the local municipal offices.

What documents do I need to present to register a car?

- An application for technical approval for individually imported vehicles;
- An application for registration of the vehicle in the motor vehicle registry;
- The original foreign registration certificate;
- A pre-registration technical inspection protocol;
- An evidential inspection protocol ("Protokol o evidenční kontrole silničního vozidla") to show whether the vehicle's condition corresponds to the information given in the registration certificate;
- COC;
- Purchase documents (invoice, contract of sale, credit contract);
- Agreement from the vehicle owner (e.g. in cases where a creditor is the owner);
- An identity card (for Czech citizens), for foreigners, original documents only (e.g. residence permit, passport).

To register the car, do I have to show that a technical inspection has been performed?

Yes. In the Czech Republic, a roadworthiness test has to be carried out 4 years after the date of first registration for new cars and subsequently every 2 years (average cost: about EUR 40).

If the car was sold with a valid foreign vehicle inspection certificate, is this recognised in the Czech Republic?

No, you need to have a national inspection carried out.

Is it mandatory to show proof of insurance to the registration service?

Yes, you have to show the International Motor Insurance Card and must be covered by insurance allowing you to drive on public roads. The standard insurance policy taken out on the car is sufficient. This will be supplemented with additional information once the car is registered in the Czech Republic.
To whom should VAT be paid?

A car is considered new if no more than 6 months have passed since the date on which it was first registered or if its mileage does not exceed 6 000 km. For intra-EU transactions, new cars are VAT exempt. Thus, the supplier should not charge VAT. Instead, if you have bought a new car in another EU Member State with the intention of importing it to and registering it in your country of residence, you must pay VAT in your own Member State at that country’s rate.

VAT should be paid to the Czech Financial Administration within 10 days of purchase.

Documents to be presented:

- Proof of payment of VAT;
- A copy of the registration certificate;
- VAT tax declaration with the bill of purchase and a report concerning the acquisition of a new vehicle attached.

Before final registration, can I drive in Czech Republic with temporary plates?

Yes, you can drive in the Czech Republic with transit plates from other EU Member States.

Whom do I contact in the event of difficulties with the registration authority/administration?

You can contact the SOLVIT Centre Czech Republic for help with any difficulties.

If you have a question linked to your consumer rights when purchasing a car cross-border, contact your local ECC:

http://www.evropskyspotrebitel.cz/

All other cars are considered second hand (more than 6 months since the date of first registration and mileage of more than 6 000 km). They are generally sold inclusive of VAT if the supplier is a taxable person for VAT purposes. You don’t have to pay VAT in your country of residence.