

PST-15

Issued: October 1987

Revised: December 2014

THE PROVINCIAL SALES TAX ACT

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READER SURVEY

INFORMATION FOR SERVICE STATIONS AND AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR SHOPS

This bulletin has been prepared to help you apply and collect the Provincial Sales Tax (PST). It is a general guide and not a substitute for the legislation.

The changes to this bulletin are indicated by a (I) in the left margin.

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A. TAXABLE GOODS

- Air compressors **except** when purchased for farm use upon completion of a Farm Exemption Certificate or equivalent
- Air fresheners
- Antifreeze **except** when installed by the service station in farm implements or farm machinery
- Auto accessories such as mirrors, lights, wheel covers, floor mats and seat covers
- Automotive cleaning products such as waxes, polishes, chamois and sponges
- Barbecue charcoal, starter fluid
- Battery chargers
- Bedding plants
- Bug screens and deflectors
- Carbon arc tips **except** when sold as a part of a welding unit for farm use

- Cigarettes, cigars, tobacco, snuff
- Clothing and footwear **except** when purchased for youth age 17 and under
- Electrical cords
- Freon and recycled freon **except** when installed by the vendor in farm implements or farm machinery
- Fungicides **except** when purchased for farm use
- Gasoline additives, including de-icer
- Hand tools
- Insect repellents
- Insecticides **except** when purchased for farm use
- Kerosene for kerosene lamps
- Lawn and garden tools
- Motor oil and oil additives **except** when installed by the vendor in farm implements or farm machinery
- Naphtha gas
- Non-prescription drugs and medicines such as pain relievers, vitamins and ointments
- Peat moss and vermiculite
- Pens
- Postcards
- Sand bags
- Solvent
- Starting fluid
- Sunglasses and suntan lotions
- Tire road hazard extended warranties **except** for farm implement tires
- Tire warranty adjustments **except** for farm implement tires, tax applies to any charges to the customer
- Tires **except** tires specifically designed as farm implement tires
- Transmission oil **except** when installed by the service station in farm implements or farm machinery
- Truck accessories such as boxes, racks and hoists whether purchased separately or with the vehicle
- Windshield scrapers and brushes
- Windshield washer antifreeze
- Windshields, windshield installation charges, and windshield repairs

B. EXEMPT GOODS

- Books - paper back, hard cover
- Children's clothing and footwear purchased for youth age 17 and under
- Comic books
- Confections, including candies, nuts and soft drinks
- Fertilizer
- Firewood, firelogs, Dura Flame, Presto
- Food and drink
- Gasoline and propane
- Ice
- Magazines and periodicals
- Matches
- Newspapers

- Sales under 26 cents
- Weed control chemicals

C. **REPAIR PARTS AND LABOUR**

Automotive repair services are subject to tax, including labour charges and charges for new and used parts. This includes services such as installation, assembly, dismantling, adjusting, restoring, examining, testing, reconditioning, wheel alignments, wheel balancing, tire repairs, lubrication, inspections, battery charging and diagnostic charges.

Charges to repair exempt farm implements are not subject to tax. For further information on exempt farm implements please refer to Information Bulletin PST-16, *Information for Farm Implement and Farm Supply Dealers*.

Used Parts

Used parts sold or itemized in repairs for individuals for personal use, are subject to PST on the selling price of the parts less a deduction of \$300 per item.

If a trade-in is involved, the purchaser is entitled to the \$300 deduction or the value of the trade-in, whichever is greater. The \$300 deduction does not apply to sales of items for business use or on used parts from outside of Canada.

Reconditioned or Remanufactured Parts

Reconditioned or remanufactured goods, such as motors, transmissions, alternators, brake shoes, batteries, fuel pumps, water pumps and retreaded tires are subject to tax on the total selling price. If an exchange unit is traded-in, the tax must be calculated on the cash difference. **A refund of tax is permitted on core credits** when the item is subsequently returned.

On the sale of a used part to an **individual** who receives credit for a core charge, the greater of the \$300 personal exemption **or** the actual core charge may be deducted, but **not** both.

Warranty Repairs

Tax does not apply to parts and labour used to repair a vehicle when those repairs are completed under the terms of the extended warranty or factory warranty.

Tax will apply to any of the charges that are billed directly to the customer including deductible charges and charges for parts or labour that are not covered under the terms of the warranty contract.

For further information on extended warranty contracts, please refer to Information Bulletin PST-6, *Information for Vendors of Extended Warranty Contracts and Maintenance Contracts*.

D. SHOP SUPPLIES

Charges to the customer for shop supplies are subject to PST. This includes charges invoiced to the customer as a fixed percentage of the total labour charge to cover the shop supplies used.

If these charges are shown as a separate line item on the invoice to the customer, the repair shop is required to collect the PST on the charge and may purchase these items exempt from tax by quoting their vendor's licence number to their suppliers.

If the shop supplies are not invoiced as a separate line item to the customer, the repair shop is required to pay PST on the purchase of these goods.

Shop supplies include the following:

- Abrasive stones and discs
- Acid core solder and bits
- Adhesive sealant
- Bearing grease
- Bench lubricant
- Brass rods
- Carburetor solvent
- Chassis grease
- Choke cleaner
- Door ease
- Electric rods
- Electrical tape
- Fibreglass
- Gasket material
- Gasket sealer compound
- Glue
- Lubriplate paste
- Masking paper
- Mechanical wire
- Minor hardware (nuts, bolts, washers)
- Parts cleaning solvent
- Permatex compound
- Protective material
- Resin
- Silicone spray
- Solder
- Steel wool
- Steel rods
- Undercoat
- Upholstery cleaner
- Window weld
- Wiping rags

E. FARM REPAIR PARTS AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

The following rules apply to farm implement and farm machinery repair parts and maintenance items, including air filters, fuel filters, oil filters, cultivator bolts, bearings, hydraulic hose and fittings, spark plugs, batteries, generators, fan belts and repair parts for electric motors, and stationary internal combustion engines:

- Parts which are designated as farm implement and farm machinery replacement parts by the manufacturer or wholesale distributor are exempt when sold over the counter or installed by the vendor.
- Parts which are interchangeable for use in motor vehicles and installed in farm implements or farm machinery by the vendor are exempt **but not** parts which are interchangeable for use in motor vehicles and sold over the counter.

- Oil, grease and other additives installed in farm implements or farm machinery by the vendor are exempt **but not** oil, grease and other additives which are sold over the counter.

F. ENVIRONMENTAL HANDLING FEES

Environmental handling fees imposed by the Government of Saskatchewan are **not subject to PST when they are segregated on the customer's invoice.**

Exempt environmental handling fees include charges billed to a customer for disposal of oil, oil filters, antifreeze, diesel exhaust fluid containers, diesel fuel filters and tires.

G. INSPECTION AND DIAGNOSTIC SERVICES

Charges to diagnose, examine or inspect vehicles are subject to tax when the service is provided in connection with the repair of the vehicle. These services are provided in order to identify and assess potential repairs and are subject to tax whether or not the actual repairs are completed.

In cases where specialized diagnostic equipment is used to conduct the analysis, any charges to the customer for use of this equipment form part of the service agreement and are also subject to tax.

Mandatory inspections that are regulated by a governing body to ensure standards are maintained, such as Saskatchewan Government Insurance safety inspections, are not subject to tax as these are not intended to be provided in relation to the repair of the vehicle.

H. SUBLET REPAIRS

Repairs sublet to other shops may be purchased exempt from tax by quoting your vendor's licence number to the company providing the repair. Tax must be collected on repair parts and labour charges invoiced to your customer.

I. EMERGENCY ROAD SIDE SERVICES

Emergency road side services, including gas delivery, tire changes, "lock-out" services, towing and battery boosting are not subject to tax. The company providing the road side services is required to pay PST on all supplies and equipment used in providing these services.

J. VEHICLE DETAILING

Vehicle cleaning services such as washing, waxing and deodorizing are not subject to tax. The company providing the vehicle detailing services is required to pay PST on all supplies and equipment used to provide the service.

K. EXEMPT SALES

- Goods and labour services provided to other repair shops for resale providing their vendor's licence number is recorded on the invoice.
- Eligible used light vehicles on which the Saskatchewan PST has previously been paid in full. Please see Information Bulletin PST-18, Information for Motor Dealers and Leasing Companies
- Carriers may purchase vehicles, trailers and certain repair parts and labour services tax free for interjurisdictional transportation purposes. The carrier's cab card number must be recorded on the sales invoice.¹
- Repairs to rental or leasing company vehicles. The purchaser's vendor's licence number must be recorded on the sales invoice.
- Sales to non-residents where the goods are shipped out-of-province by the vendor and evidence of shipment is retained **but not** sales to non-residents which are taken at the time of purchase, including vehicle repairs.
- Sales of goods to status Indians or Indian Bands are not subject to tax providing the goods are delivered to a reserve by the retailer and the *Certificate of Indian Status* card or band number is recorded on the invoice. The complete 10 digit card number must be recorded on the sales invoice. If the federal identification card number is only 3 to 5 digits, record the number and the name of the band on the sales invoice. **Proof of delivery to reserve must be retained.**

Repair labour performed on reserve for status Indians and Indian bands is not subject to tax. **Proof the labour was performed on reserve must be retained.** Repairs performed off reserve are taxable.

- Sales to federal government departments and agencies. (Note: Sales to federal Crown corporations and provincial government ministries, agencies and Crown corporations are **taxable**).

L. SALES OF USED BUSINESS ASSETS

Businesses are required to collect tax on the sale of used assets, such as taxable vehicles and equipment. When used assets are being sold as part of the closure of a business, the purchaser is required to self-assess and report the tax.²

M. GOODS AND SERVICES FOR YOUR OWN USE

Businesses are required to pay tax on the cost of equipment, supplies and taxable services purchased for use in their business operations.

- When purchased from a licensed supplier, the tax must be paid to the supplier at the time of purchase.

¹ Information Bulletin PST-50, *Information for Interjurisdictional Carriers*

² Information Bulletin PST-58, *Information on the Taxation of Used Goods*

- When taken from an exempt resale inventory, the tax must be self-assessed and remitted with the regular tax return. This includes goods taken for personal or business use.
- When purchased from an unlicensed supplier, such as one located outside Saskatchewan, the tax must be self-assessed and remitted with the regular tax return. Tax is payable on the laid-down cost, which includes currency exchange, transportation charges, customs and excise duties and importation charges, but not the GST.

N. SASKATCHEWAN ELECTRONIC TAX SERVICE (SETS)

The Ministry of Finance has made it possible to report and remit tax electronically through the use of a standard Internet connection. The Saskatchewan Electronic Tax Service (SETS) offers a secure, fast, easy and convenient alternative to filing returns in paper format. Several E-File services are currently available through SETS.

Businesses may use SETS to file and pay returns for PST and other provincial taxes.

SETS allows businesses to:

- file and pay returns or make payments on account;
- file a return and post-date the payment to the due date;
- view account balance and statement information;
- authorize your accountant to file on your behalf; and
- subscribe to an Email Notification Service that allows the option to be notified by email that a tax return should be filed. This replaces the paper forms normally received in the mail.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Write: Ministry of Finance
Revenue Division
PO Box 200
REGINA SK S4P 2Z6

Telephone: Toll Free 1-800-667-6102
Regina 306-787-6645

Email: sask.tax.info@gov.sk.ca

In-Person: Ministry of Finance
Revenue Division
2350 Albert St
REGINA SK S4P 4A6

Fax: 306-787-9644

Internet: PST Bulletins, forms and information are available on the Internet at:
<http://www.finance.gov.sk.ca/taxes/pst>

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