Structural Damage Policy section 1

Effective Date April 3, 2023

The purpose of the NAAA Structural Damage Policy is to define and clarify terminology associated with structural issues and to specify the disclosure requirements of the seller for vehicles offered at NAAA affiliated auctions. The policy is intended to provide adequate disclosure to the buyer for informed purchase decisions and to limit arbitrations for the seller. This policy, along with the main Arbitration Policy, will serve as the primary criteria for all arbitration proceedings.

DEFINITIONS

- 1. **Vehicle Structure** The main load-bearing platform of a vehicle that gives strength, stability and design exclusivity and to which all other components of the vehicle are fastened. For purposes of this policy, there are three macro types:
- a. **Unibody** A type of structure whereby the floor pan assembly, roof braces/bows, pillars, etc. are bonded together into one unit, thereby eliminating the need for a separate conventional structure.
- b. **Unibody on Conventional Structure** A type of structure whereby a unitized structure is bolted to a conventional structure.
- c. Conventional Structure A type of structure consisting of two symmetrical rails connected by various cross-members.
- 2. **UVMS** Used Vehicle Measurement Standard. The commercially acceptable measurement deviation from the vehicle's original structural specification in order for any deviation not to be considered structural damage.
- 3. **Permanent Damage (aka "Kinked" or "Broken"** The result of two or more objects striking or coming together at a significant change in velocity that permanently deforms the structural component(s) rendering it non-repairable per the manufacturer.

SELLER DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS

Sellers must disclose permanent structural damage, any structural alterations, structural repairs or replacements (certified or non-certified) as outlined in this policy prior to selling a vehicle at auction regardless of sales channel or light condition. Disclosures are required for the following:

- 1. Any/all existing permanent (non-repairable aka kinked or broken) structural damage as defined in this policy.
- 2. Improper and/or substandard prior repairs (not meeting OEM repair guidelines).
- 3. Repairs not certified using OEM guidelines or to be within the UVMS improper alterations to the structure lengthened or shortened structure verified by visual inspection.
- 4. Altered suspension that requires the structure to be modified from its OEM form.
- 5. After-market accessories installed or removed to the structure.
- 6. Towing packages installed (or removed) where new holes are drilled, OEM holes are enlarged, or if the towing package is welded or brazed to the structure.
- 7. Multiple access holes (regardless of size) or singular access holes greater than 5/8". Access holes between 1/4" and 5/8" are subject to disclosure based upon location and condition of structural component.
- 8. Corrosion of structural components determined by one or more of the following: when the substrate loses its shape; the original bonds near the affected area are loose or are no longer in existence; the original thickness of the substrate has been changed by more than 25%; the affected area no longer possesses its absorption or deflection properties.
- 9. Structural tear damage (i.e. transport tie down) if more than 1" in length (measured from tear start/stop points).
- 10. Roof braces/bows that have been modified, have existing permanent damage or removed. A replaced roof skin is not a required disclosure in terms of the Structural Damage Policy.
- 11. The C pillar/quarter or cab panel may or may not be a structural component(s) as per the vehicle manufacturer.

RECOMMENDED DISCLOSURES

- 1. **Structural Damage** Damage to the structure or a specific structural component of the vehicle. Often referred to as structure damage, although it also applies to Unibody and Unibody On Structure in addition to Conventional Structure.
- 2. Certified Structural Repairs/Replacement Repairs to a specifically identified structural component of a vehicle that has been certified to be within the Used Vehicle Measurement Standard (UVMS).
- 3. **Structural Alteration** An alteration to the vehicle's structure including a lengthened or shortened structure, a modified suspension, or the installation or removal of after-market accessories.

ARBITRATION RULES FOR STRUCTURAL DAMAGE, ALTERATION, CERTIFIED REPAIRS OR CERTIFIED REPLACEMENT

- 1. A vehicle may be arbitrated if it has undisclosed existing permanent damage alteration, certified repairs or certified replacement, which should have been disclosed under this policy, even though the vehicle is within the UVMS. If structural issue is properly disclosed, the vehicle may only be arbitrated for improper repair of the designated area, existing permanent damage or repairs to other areas of the vehicle not disclosed, or for failure to be within the UVMS that was verified by visual inspection.
- 2. Damaged or replaced radiator core supports or rear body panels do not require a structural disclosure under this policy.
- 3. Damage to the aprons, rail floor pan assembly, inner wheelhouse (upper or lower), D Pillar (if equipped) or other ancillary structural components on a unitized structure in the area where the radiator core support or rear body panel attaches will require a disclosure if permanent damage exists.
- 4. Brazed exhaust hangers are not a required disclosure under this policy.
- 5. Facilitating auction will, at its discretion, have a vehicle measured according to the UVMS at a facility of its choice. Prior to sending the vehicle for measurement, the auction reserves the right to complete a visual verification of the physical condition of the vehicle to determine that it should be measured. If the measuring facility determines that the vehicle is within the UVMS, the buyer of the vehicle will be responsible for the charges paid to the facility. Likewise, if the measuring facility determines that the vehicle is not within the UVMS, the seller will be responsible for the charges paid to the facility.
- 6. Visual evidence supersedes any/all mechanical or electronic measurements.
- 7. For measurements according to the UVMS, the following guidelines will apply:
 - a. The vehicle structure must measure to a total tolerance of no more than +/- 8 millimeters (mm) of published specification of length, width and height at control points that capture the front (2), center (4) and rear (2) sections of the vehicle.
 - b. Symmetrically (comparative measure from side to side and point to point based on point measurement), the length, width and height must measure to a difference of no more than 6 mm. Upper body measurements (tram gauge) by themselves will not be adequate.
- 8. Buyer must arbitrate any/all structural misrepresentations as outlined in this policy within published timelines (outlined in the main Arbitration Policy Guidelines) from date of purchase (purchase day counts as day one).
- 9. The buyer must contact and follow the arbitration process of the auction where the vehicle was purchased including the auction's direction for return of the vehicle and the timeframe allowed for the vehicle to be returned.
- 10. In the event of improperly disclosed structural damage by the seller, the buyer will be entitled to reimbursement in accordance with the main Arbitration Policy.