DoD Instruction 4500.36

Acquisition, Management, and Use of Non-Tactical Vehicles

Originating Component: Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment

Effective: February 1, 2023


Reissues and Cancels: DoD Instruction 4500.36, “Acquisition, Management, and Use of Non-Tactical Vehicles (NTVs),” December 11, 2012, as amended

Approved by: William A. LaPlante, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment

Purpose: In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5135.02, this issuance establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, and provides procedures for DoD acquisition, management, and use of U.S. Government-owned, -leased, and -controlled non-tactical vehicles (NTVs), referred to in this issuance as “DoD NTVs.”
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SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

1.1. APPLICABILITY.

This issuance applies to:

a. OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within the DoD (referred to collectively in this issuance as the “DoD Components”).

b. All DoD-owned, -leased, and -controlled NTVs, regardless of how they are acquired or financed.

1.2. POLICY.

a. DoD NTVs will be used for official purposes only, which do not include personal use or transportation between a residence and place of employment unless authorized pursuant to Section 1344 of Title 31, United States Code (U.S.C.); Section 2637 of Title 10, U.S.C.; or this issuance.

b. The use of DoD NTVs is restricted as transportation between a residence and place of employment, commonly known as “domicile-to-duty transportation to, from, within, and wholly outside of DoD installations.”

c. Pursuant to Section 1344 of Title 31, U.S.C., the use of DoD NTVs is authorized for transportation between their residences and places of employment for the:

   (1) Secretary of Defense and Deputy Secretary of Defense.

   (2) Secretaries of the Military Departments.

   (3) Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.


   (5) Chiefs of Staff of the Army and Air Force, Chief of Naval Operations, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Chief of Space Operations, and Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

d. Pursuant to Section 1344 of Title 31, U.S.C., transportation between a residence and place of employment is authorized only when:

   (1) Necessary for the performance of intelligence, counterintelligence, protective services, or criminal law enforcement duties; necessary for duties of transportation of federally owned canines associated with force protection duties as part of the intelligence community; and
required for the performance of field work or when compelling operational considerations, an emergency, or a clear and present danger makes such transportation essential.

(2) Requests are submitted consistent with the policy in DoD Manual (DoDM) 4500.36 and approved by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of a Military Department.

1.3. INFORMATION COLLECTIONS.

The annual report on alternative fuel vehicle data, referred to in Paragraphs 2.2.d. and 2.4.n., is submitted to Congress in accordance with Public Law 105-388 and is coordinated with the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs in accordance with DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5545.02 and Volume 1 of DoDM 8910.01.
SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

2.1. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR ACQUISITION AND SUSTAINMENT (USD(A&S)).

The USD(A&S) establishes policy and guidance for the acquisition, management, and use of DoD NTVs, including vehicles that are purchased or leased, in support of this issuance.

2.2. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR SUSTAINMENT.

Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(A&S), the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Sustainment:

   a. Ensures that this issuance and DoDM 4500.36 remain current, comply with regulations, and ensure that there is oversight on required changes.

   b. Pursuant to Section 1344 of Title 31, U.S.C., processes domicile-to-duty requests (excluding those that the Secretaries of the Military Departments review and approve).

   c. Provides guidance to DoD Components on energy and environmental infrastructure issues as they relate to DoD NTVs.

   d. Collects, reviews, and submits energy-related reports consistent with Executive Orders (E.O.s) 10579, 11912, and 14057; Public Law 110-140; and applicable Federal or DoD energy-related policies.

   e. Provides guidance to DoD Components on DoD traffic safety programs, in accordance with DoDI 6055.04, as they relate to DoD NTVs.

   f. Establishes and oversees the Office of the Secretary of Defense Non-Tactical Vehicle Fleet Manager for all DoD NTVs.

   g. Establishes accountability requirements for DoD NTVs with oversight of vehicle registration and life-cycle management in accordance with DoDI 5000.64 and Volume 4 of DoD 7000.14-R.

   h. Distributes guidance to DoD Components for improving the performance of the DoD’s fleet of vehicles by increasing the use of vehicle technologies and optimizing fleet size and composition.

   i. Directs the DoD Components to field and use a compliant fleet management information system for capture and report DoD NTV accountability, maintenance, use, and cost of operations.

k. Directs the timely submission of annual DoD NTV data for Congress, the Department of Energy, and GSA through the Fleet Automotive Statistical Tool (FAST).

l. Includes all fleet management usage and consumption information from the DoD Accountable Property System of Record, FAST, and Department of Energy information in FAST.

2.3. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE (COMPTROLLER)/CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE.

The Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense oversees budgeting and accounting policy for DoD NTV acquisition, management, and operation.

2.4. DOD COMPONENT HEADS.

The DoD Component heads:

a. Acquire DoD NTVs and associated infrastructure, consistent with this issuance; E.O.s 10579, 11912, and 14057; Public Law 110-140; DoD Directive 4715.21; DoDM 4500.36; and DoDI 6055.04, and provide supplemental DoD Component guidance as appropriate.

b. Manage and operate DoD NTVs consistent with this issuance and DoDM 4500.36. Transportation by DoD NTVs is prohibited when the justification is based solely on reasons of rank, position, prestige, or personal convenience.

c. Establish fuel efficiency DoD NTV programs to the maximum extent practicable with the acquisition of alternative fueled vehicles and the use of alternative fuels, consistent with E.O.s 10579, 11912, and 14057; Public Law 110-140; Sections 6374, 13211, and 13212 of Title 42, U.S.C.; Section 32917 of Title 49, U.S.C; and DoD Directive 4715.21.

d. Establish responsive, effective, and economical DoD NTV programs in support of the DoD mission.

e. Consistent with Sections 601 to 611 of Title 40, U.S.C., select the DoD NTV for each individual task that is best suited by virtue of size classification, configuration, and economy of operation.

f. Limit the DoD NTV fleets to the minimum needed to provide essential transportation services under normal conditions to meet Defense Agencies’ missions.

g. Account for DoD NTVs in accordance with DoDI 5000.64.
h. Determine optimal fleet size and composition (e.g., fuel or energy type and vehicle class) consistent with GSA Bulletin Federal Management Regulation B-43 and supplemental guidance that the GSA provides.

i. Maximize the pooling of DoD NTVs wherever practicable, consistent with this issuance; Sections 601 to 611 of Title 40, U.S.C.; DoDM 4500.36; and E.O.10579.

j. Register, identify, and mark DoD NTVs consistent with Sections 601 to 611 of Title 40, U.S.C. and in accordance with DoDM 4500.36.

k. Establish and maintain comprehensive traffic safety programs for DoD NTV operators in accordance with DoDM 4500.36.

l. Coordinate with the Director of Equipment, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Logistics on the implementation of programs for accountability, maintenance, use, and dispatch management of assigned DoD NTVs.

m. Account for, maintain, use, and dispatch DoD NTVs in a safe and serviceable condition.

n. Annually report alternative fuel vehicle data in accordance with DoDM 4500.36.

o. Arrange inter-Service use of DoD NTVs when economies can be realized and there is no impairment to military operational effectiveness in accordance with DoDI 4000.19.

p. None of this policy can be used to authorize domicile-to-duty transportation except as set forth in DoDM 4500.36.

2.5. COMBATANT COMMANDERS.

Pursuant to Section 2637 of Title 10, U.S.C., and in addition to the responsibilities in Paragraph 2.4., the Combatant Commanders may authorize the use of DoD NTVs when necessary within their areas of responsibility outside the continental United States for members of the uniformed services and Federal civilian employees under their jurisdiction, or for the dependents of such members and employees, if the Combatant Commander determines that public or private transportation in such an area is unsafe or unavailable (e.g., terrorist activity, strike, natural disaster). This authority may not be delegated. None of this policy can be used to authorize domicile-to-duty transportation except as set forth in DoDM 4500.36.
3.1. DOD COMPONENTS.

DoD Components:

   a. Pool the use of DoD NTVs.

   b. Assign exclusive use of a DoD NTV to one official or employee only when the DoD
      Component head determines that exclusive use of a DoD NTV is essential to mission
      accomplishment and results in the most economical use of the workforce and equipment
      consistent with Volume 4 of DoD 7000.14-R.

   c. Individually assign DoD NTVs with drivers within the National Capital Region only for
      the:

         (1) Secretary of Defense and the Deputy Secretary of Defense.

         (2) Secretaries of the Military Departments.

         (3) Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.


         (5) Chiefs of Staff of the Army and Air Force, the Chief of Naval Operations,
             Commandant of the Marine Corps, Chief of Space Operations, and Chief of the National Guard
             Bureau.

3.2. DOD NTV ACQUISITION.

DoD Components acquire DoD NTVs from the most cost-effective source:

   a. Purchase or lease through the GSA.

   b. By using the least costly method to the U.S. Government as validated by a cost
      comparison that is consistent with E.O. 14057 and Public Law 110-140.

   c. After conducting cost-comparison studies in accordance with Appendix 2 to Enclosure 4
      of DoDM 4500.36.

3.3. DOD NTV USE.

DoD Components:

   a. Allow the use of U.S. Government-provided bus transportation in place of DoD NTVs to
      support the affairs of the DoD Components in accordance with DoDM 4500.36.
b. May provide DoD NTVs to DoD contractor employees in accordance with contract requirements only under a cost-reimbursement contract in accordance with DoDM 4500.36.

c. Select, train, and license all vehicle operators (military personnel, civilian employees, and DoD contractor employees) before allowing the operation of DoD NTVs in accordance with DoDM 4500.36 and E.O. 14057.

3.4. MISSION ASSESSMENTS.

DoD Components will:

a. Conduct life-cycle assessments for DoD NTVs.

b. Conduct annual life-cycle assessments to:

   (1) Validate documentation of an active mission requirement or the need for a new acquisition or to lease replacement DoD NTVs.

   (2) Validate that each current DoD NTV is driven for at least 6,000 miles per year.

   (3) Validate mission requirements for new acquisition or leased DoD NTVs in addition to the existing DoD NTV fleet.

   (4) Verify that new acquisition or lease replacement DoD NTVs are required for the mission in a document that the DoD Component head signs.

c. Conduct a vehicle acquisition methodology (VAM) study every 5 years. DoD Components will:

   (1) Use FAST to conduct the 5-year VAM study that:

      (a) Identifies each DoD NTV currently in the DoD Component fleet.

      (b) Identifies DoD NTVs that are unnecessary or do not match mission or location requirements.

      (c) Validates that optional features (e.g., an optional feature of four-wheel drive) are required to meet mission needs.

      (d) Identifies opportunities for vehicle sharing.

      (e) Identifies new requirements for DoD NTVs.

   (2) Determine and document retention of DoD NTVs that are driven for fewer than 6,000 miles per year to meet mission requirements, such as continuity-of-operations and emergency response vehicles.
(3) Determine and document retention of DoD NTVs currently in the fleet that are driven for more than 6,000 miles per year and are required for the mission.

(4) Document target fleet size based on the total number of DoD NTVs identified for retention.

(5) Document a profile of the optimal fleet with a summary of:

(a) The number of vehicles.

(b) The most appropriate types of vehicles required to meet mission requirements in compliance with applicable regulations.

(c) The VAM implementation strategy and plan for obtaining the optimal fleet profile with an emphasis on eliminating unnecessary or non-essential NTVs from the DoD Component’s fleet inventory and ensuring life-cycle cost-effectiveness of maintaining such inventory.

(d) The VAM optimal fleet profile with results reflected in the annual FAST reporting and annual DoD Fleet Management Plan.

(e) A forward-looking process to estimate fleet inventories and budget needs several years into the future based on the most recent VAM study.

(f) The annual DoD Fleet Management Plan, which is submitted to GSA each year.

3.5. DOD LAW ENFORCEMENT VEHICLES.

To standardize DoD law enforcement vehicle capabilities, improve the vehicle transition process, and reduce overall costs, DoD Components will:

a. Acquire all DoD law enforcement vehicles using the Federal Service Law Enforcement Vehicle Equipment Standardization Assembly or GSA Upfit Kit.

b. Submit requests for vehicle alteration to GSA for review and approval before altering GSA vehicles.

c. Return vehicles to GSA in the condition they were received.

3.6. VEHICLE ACCIDENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

a. DoD Components will direct fleet managers to establish DoD fleet management operations with a vehicle accident management program to:

(1) Document reduced availability of vehicles and operational readiness of its fleet.

(2) Determine if the operator was negligent in vehicle operations.
(3) Inquire, research, and investigate the causes of the loss, damage, destruction, or theft of government property.

(4) Assess financial liability with respect to lost, damaged, destroyed, or stolen government property.

(5) Account for loss, damage, destruction, or theft of government property from accidents or misuse.

(6) Determine the responsibility and amount of financial liability of those found to be at fault for such financial losses due to accidents or misuse.

(7) Identify accountability and debts resulting from the assessment of financial liability.

b. DoD Components will direct fleet managers to:


(2) Pursuant to Section 101-39.401 of Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, direct:

   (a) Vehicle operators to complete Sections I through IX of the SF 91 and submit the SF 91, a completed DD Form 200, SF 94, photos, and accident or misuse information to the vehicle operator’s supervisor within 1 working day of an accident.

   (b) Vehicle operators’ supervisors to complete Items 73 through 83d of Section X of the SF 91 and submit the SF 91, a completed DD Form 200, SF 94, photos, and accident or misuse information to the crash investigator within 2 working days of an accident.

   (c) Crash investigators to complete Sections XI through XIII of the SF 91 when there are bodily injuries, fatalities, or damages exceeding $500 and submit the SF 91, a completed DD Form 200, SF 94, photos, and accident or misuse information to the fleet manager within 3 working days of an accident.

(3) Submit documentation to GSA’s Accident Management Center within 5 working days of an accident or misuse involving a GSA vehicle.

(4) Revoke a driver’s authorization to operate DoD NTVs during an accident investigation until a determination of negligence has been completed. A driver’s authorization to operate a DoD NTV may be reinstated based on the commander’s (or DoD civilian equivalent’s) assessment and statement of mission requirements.

(5) Suspend a driver’s authorization to operate DoD NTVs when a driver’s negligence is determined.
(6) Require all drivers involved in accidents to attend GSA defensive drivers training before authorizing the drivers to operate DoD NTVs again.

(7) Complete investigations and documentation within 60 days of the accident or misuse notification.

3.7. DOD NTV FLEET MANAGEMENT.

a. DoD Components use fleet management information to:

   (1) Evaluate a fleet’s capability to meet mission requirements.

   (2) Assess operational readiness.

   (3) Develop and support strategic business approaches.

b. In accordance with DoDM 4500.36, fleet managers will use the DoD Fleet Management Information System to document:

   (1) Alternative fuel DoD NTV management data.

   (2) Monthly mileage and fuel cost for DoD NTVs.

   (3) Validation of monthly vehicle mileage odometer readings for GSA-leased vehicles.

   (4) Monthly DoD NTV expenses and damage costs for the GSA drive-thru agency incurred expenses review.

   (5) Validation of GSA vendor and customer self-service billing for the lease of vehicles and submission of payment to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service within 30 days of billing.

   (6) A monthly review of the electrical charge calculations for zero-emission DoD NTVs.

   (7) A quarterly review of completed or scheduled DoD NTV recalls.

   (8) A quarterly reconciliation of all GSA vendor and customer self-service accounts to verify prompt payments.

   (9) A quarterly review of costs for DoD NTV acquisition, replacement, and disposition.

   (10) A verification of all DoD NTV odometer readings by October 1 of each year.

   (11) An annual validation of DoD NTV license plate expiration dates.

   (12) The annual validation of FAST data for:

      (a) Miles per gasoline gallon equivalent.
(b) Total miles traveled during the fiscal year.
(c) Total cost of fuel and maintenance for DoD NTVs.
(d) Vehicle disposition dates and reasons.
(e) Fuel use and fuel configuration for each DoD NTV.

(13) An annual review of fleet data accuracy to identify data errors for correction using the FAST Sandbox.

3.8. SAFE NTV OPERATIONS.

a. DoD Components will direct all DoD personnel to:

(1) Operate DoD NTVs in a safe manner at all times.

(2) Park or store the DoD NTVs in a manner that reasonably protects them from theft or damage.

(3) Lock the unattended DoD NTVs.

(4) Pay fines cited while operating DoD NTVs for infractions due to parking or moving violations within 30 days of the infraction.

(5) File for reimbursement of parking fees incurred while performing official duties.

(6) Obey all motor vehicle traffic laws of the State and local jurisdiction, except when the official duties require otherwise.

(7) Comply with State and local jurisdiction laws regarding the operation of DoD NTVs, except when the official duties require otherwise.

(8) Comply with DoD restrictions that:

(a) Use (including smoking) of tobacco, marijuana, cannabis, and vaping is prohibited in DoD NTVs.

(b) Use of any handheld device by the DoD NTV operator when the vehicle is being operated is prohibited.

(c) Connection, pairing, or syncing of U.S. Government cellular telephones in a DoD NTV is prohibited.

(d) Carrying firearms is prohibited in a DoD NTV other than as authorized in accordance with DoD Directive 5210.56.
(9) Refuel vehicles based on the DoD NTV fuel configuration (e.g., refuel with alternative fuel when available or charge plug-in hybrid electric vehicles after each use, when possible, and at least once a week).

b. When operation of DoD NTVs is part of a DoD contract, DoD Components will include specifications in DoD contracts for all DoD contractor employees to follow the conditions of Paragraphs 3.8.a.(1)–(9).
Glossary

G.1. Acronyms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DD</td>
<td>Department of Defense (forms)</td>
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<td>DoDI</td>
<td>DoD instruction</td>
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<td>DoDM</td>
<td>DoD manual</td>
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<td>E.O.</td>
<td>Executive order</td>
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<td>FAST</td>
<td>Fleet Automotive Statistical Tool</td>
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<td>GSA</td>
<td>General Services Administration</td>
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<td>NTV</td>
<td>non-tactical vehicle</td>
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<td>SF</td>
<td>standard form</td>
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<td>USD(A&amp;S)</td>
<td>Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment</td>
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<td>VAM</td>
<td>vehicle acquisition methodology</td>
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G.2. Definitions.

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>alternative fueled vehicle</td>
<td>Defined in Section 13211 of Title 42, U.S.C.</td>
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<td>contractor</td>
<td>Defined in Section 9.403 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>dispatch</td>
<td>The procedure for assigning vehicle operators (based on vehicle operators’ availability and skills) and vehicles to customers (based on mission requirements) while maintaining accountability of the vehicles and personnel.</td>
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<td>DoD Fleet Management Information System</td>
<td>The automation system used to manage vehicles, maintenance, use, and operations for the DoD.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TERM</td>
<td>DEFINITION</td>
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<tr>
<td>DoD NTV</td>
<td>Any government-owned, -leased, and -controlled motor vehicle, trailer, or material handling or engineering equipment that carries passengers or cargo acquired for administrative, direct mission, or operational support of military functions. DoD NTVs are self-propelled wheeled conveyances, designed and operated principally for the movement of property or passengers, that do not operate on rails and do not include an NTV designed or used for military field training, combat, or tactical purposes. All DoD sedans, station wagons, carryalls, vans, and buses are considered non-tactical.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAST</td>
<td>A web-based Federal motor vehicle fleet compliance data reporting tool used to collect data about Federal motor vehicle fleets. FAST is jointly managed by the GSA, Department of Energy, and U.S. Energy Information Administration.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FAST Sandbox</td>
<td>A module in FAST used to conduct an annual review of fleet data accuracy to identify data errors for correction.</td>
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<td>Federal Service Law Enforcement Vehicle Equipment Standardization</td>
<td>A GSA lease option for pre-configured sedan, pickup, and utility vehicle packages with factory-direct mechanical upgrades and law enforcement equipment necessary for police duty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GSA Upfit Kit</td>
<td>A series of standard law enforcement equipment packages for sedans, pickup trucks, and sport utility vehicles with uniform equipment from the original equipment manufacturer that GSA offers to organizations for law enforcement missions.</td>
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<tr>
<td>intelligence community</td>
<td>Defined in Section 3003 of Chapter 44 of Title 50, U.S.C.</td>
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<td>least costly method</td>
<td>Method to determine the cost associated with NTV support that includes the cost elements in Appendix 2 to Enclosure 4 of DoDM 4500.36.</td>
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<td>National Capital Region</td>
<td>The District of Columbia; Montgomery, Prince George’s, and Frederick Counties in Maryland; Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, and Prince William Counties in Virginia; and all cities now or hereafter existing in Maryland or Virginia within the geographic area bounded by the outer boundaries of the combined area of said counties.</td>
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<tr>
<td>TERM</td>
<td>DEFINITION</td>
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<tr>
<td>official purpose</td>
<td>Operating a U.S. Government motor vehicle to perform DoD missions as authorized by the DoD. Commonly referred to as “official use.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>operations</td>
<td>Functions associated with the organization responsible for administering, planning, directing, and controlling the assignment and movement of transportation equipment and drivers in the transporting of personnel and cargo.</td>
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<tr>
<td>operator</td>
<td>A person who is required and authorized to physically operate a DoD NTV.</td>
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<tr>
<td>place of employment</td>
<td>Any place within the accepted commuting area where the person performs their business, trade, or occupation, even if the person is there only for a short period of time. The term includes, but is not limited to, an official duty station, home base, domicile, or headquarters or any place where the person is assigned to work, including locations where meetings, conferences, and other official functions take place.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pool</td>
<td>To centrally control a group of vehicles and dispatch vehicles for use as needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>pooling</td>
<td>A technique to ensure that minimum assets are required to service the maximum number of requirements and to provide centralized control. DoD NTVs are rotated to get an even distribution of mileage on similar DoD NTV types at an installation.</td>
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<tr>
<td>vehicle technologies</td>
<td>The research, development, and deployment of efficient and sustainable transportation technologies that will improve energy efficiency and fuel economy and enable the United States to use less petroleum. These technologies, which include advanced batteries and electric drive systems, lightweight materials, advanced combustion engines, alternative fuels, and energy-efficient mobility systems, will increase the United States’ energy security and economic vitality and citizens’ quality of life.</td>
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<tr>
<td>zero-emission DoD NTV</td>
<td>A vehicle that does not emit pollutants or gases.</td>
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</table>
REFERENCES

Code of Federal Regulations, Title 41, Section 101-39.401
DoD Instruction 4000.19, “Support Agreements,” December 16, 2020
DoD Instruction 5000.64, “Accountability and Management of DoD Equipment and Other Accountable Property,” April 27, 2017, as amended
Federal Acquisition Regulation, current edition
United States Code, Title 10, Section 2637
United States Code, Title 31, Section 1344
United States Code, Title 40
United States Code, Title 42
United States Code, Title 49, Section 32917
United States Code, Title 50, Chapter 44, Section 3003