

# Alabama Department of Revenue

News Release  
Nov. 15, 2006

## Permanent Trailer Tag Eliminates Re-tagging Headaches for Truckers

*Montgomery*—Legislation passed earlier this year created a new permanent trailer tag for Alabama motor carriers, but time is running out to acquire the new tag for the upcoming registration year, according to the Alabama Department of Revenue.

Alabama owners of tractor-trailer, truck trailer, or semitrailer combinations now can choose either to register their trailers annually and pay an annual registration fee of \$20 or purchase the new permanent trailer license plate for a one-time registration fee of \$60.

The annual registration period runs from October 1 through November 30 each year for trailers, so owners opting to purchase the permanent trailer tag in place of renewing annual registrations must do so in the coming weeks.

“The permanent trailer tag option is viewed as a welcomed change by many in Alabama’s trucking community who have worked to streamline the registration process for motor carriers,” said State Revenue Commissioner Tom Surtees. “Since trailers are constantly in transit, physically re-tagging trailers every year can prove to be a hardship for some owners,” explained Surtees.

The permanent plate is valid for the life of the trailer, but it cannot be transferred to another trailer or to another owner.

Property tax will still be assessed and paid annually on the trailer, but instead of paying the property tax at the time of annual registration, owners

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choosing the permanent tag option will file a Business Personal Property Tax Return during the period October 1 through December 31 of each year.

Business Personal Property Tax is paid in arrears; therefore, owners choosing the permanent plate in 2006 will file a Business Personal Property Tax Return this October through December, but will not pay the property tax amount due until the following Oct. 1 through Dec. 31, 2007.

For more information concerning the new permanent trailer tag, owners should contact the department's Vehicle Services office at (334) 242-9006 or visit the department's Web site at [www.revenue.alabama.gov](http://www.revenue.alabama.gov).

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