**Memorandum**

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| **Identifying Information:** | **Registration of trailers.** |

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| **Tax Type:** | **Vehicles** |
| **Brief Description:** | **Registration of trailers.** |
| **Keywords:** |  |
| **Effective Date:** | **07/18/1989** |

**Body:**

**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Rick Scheibe, Chief DATE: July 18, 1989  
Title and Registration Bureau  
  
FROM: Eugene Lueger, Attorney RE: Registration of trailers;  
Legal Services Legal Opinion  
  
This memorandum is in response to your questions regarding whether an air compressor permanently mounted on a single axle trailer is required to be registered and titled pursuant to law, when the resulting weight of both trailer and air compressor is in excess of 2,000 pounds.  
  
K.S.A. 1988 Supp. 8-127 states:  
  
(a) Every owner of a motor vehicle, motorized bicycle, trailer or semitrailer intended to be operated upon any highway in this state, whether such owner is a resident of this state or another state, or such motor vehicle, motorized bicycle, trailer or semitrailer is operated in this state, apply for and obtain registration in this state under the provisions of K.S.A. 8-126 to 8-149, . . . (Emphasis provided).  
  
K.S.A. 1988 Supp. 8-126 (h) defines “trailer” as:

Every vehicle without motive power designed to carry property or passengers wholly on its own structure and to be drawn by a motor vehicle. (Emphasis provided).

K.S.A. 1988 Supp. 8-143(2)(a) states:

For any trailer, semitrailer, mobile home, travel trailer or pole trailer the annual license fee shall be as follows: . . . for any vehicle grossing more than 2,000 pounds but not over 8,000 pounds, the annual fee shall be $10. (Emphasis added).

K.S.A. 1988 Supp. 8-143(2) states:

As used in this subsection, the term “gross weight” shall mean and include the empty weight of truck, or of combination of truck or truck tractor and any type trailer or semitrailer, plus the maximum weight of cargo which will be transported on or with the same, . . . (Emphasis provided).

A single axle vehicle with an air compressor, permanently or otherwise, affixed thereto, and that is to be drawn by another motor vehicle, is within the definition of a “trailer” under K.S.A. 8-126. When a trailer which combined with property on or attached to the trailer weighs in excess of 2,000 pounds, then K.S.A. 8-127 and 8-143 require it to be registered.  
  
K.S.A. 1988 Supp. 8-135 states:

(c)(6) It shall be unlawful for any person to operate in this state a vehicle required to be registered under this act, . . . ., unless a certificate of title has been issued as herein provided.

A trailer that is required to be registered must also have a certificate of title as required by law.  
  
  
**Eugene Lueger**  
  
  
**Date Composed: 02/24/1998 Date Modified: 10/09/2001**