

## Victorian Interlock Program

### Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. What is an alcohol interlock?**

An alcohol interlock is a breath-alcohol measuring instrument coupled with a vehicle immobilizer. It will prevent a driver from starting a vehicle if their blood alcohol concentration (BAC) exceeds the programmed limit (usually zero).
- 2. What will I need to bring with me on the day of the Interlock installation?**

On the day of the installation you need to bring the Court order (original copy), your driver's license or receipt and a valid concession card if applicable.
- 3. Can anyone else than the participating driver drive the Interlock equipped vehicle?**

Yes, any other person can drive the alcohol interlock equipped vehicle and therefore should be trained in how to use the device. However, they will also have to provide a breath sample and pass the test in order to start the vehicle. The participant of the program is responsible for any readings that are recorded on the device.
- 4. Will a breath sample error cause a violation?**

If you have caused a breath sample error, the unit will warn you that you will need to provide another sample. This will not result in a violation.
- 5. What happens if the driver refuses an initial breath test?**

This is not a violation. For example, the driver does not have to provide an initial breath test if they do not intend to drive, as their intention may be only to turn on the radio or open the electric windows.
- 6. What happens by failing an initial breath test?**

If you fail an initial breath test with a result in between 0.020 – 0.049% BAC, you will be "locked out" from starting your car for 5 minutes. If you fail an initial breath test with a result higher than 0.050% BAC, you will be in lockout mode for 30 minutes.
- 7. What will happen if the driver is late for a service appointment?**

If the driver is late for a service appointment, the display on the device will count down the days until a permanent lockout occurs (e.g. "Device Lockout in x days").  
If you ignore the service reminder, you will not be able to start the car until the alcohol interlock is serviced. You will need to tow your vehicle to your Service Agent at your own expense.

8. **What happens if the driver takes any alcohol based liquids (medicine, mouthwash) or any foods containing alcohol?**  
If the driver consumes any liquids or foods containing alcohol, they must wait 15 minutes prior to using the alcohol interlock. This is to ensure no mouth alcohol will influence the result.
9. **Can smoke influence the breath sample result?**  
Yes. Blowing directly into the unit may affect the device readings. You must wait 15 minutes prior to using the alcohol interlock.
10. **Can the use of perfume, hairspray, after shave, colognes or any other alcohol based hygiene products in the car influence the breath sample result?**  
Using any alcohol based hygiene products in the car may affect the device readings. To ensure you do not record any violations, you must wait 15 minutes prior to using the alcohol interlock. If you have used any of these products it is suggested you open the windows of your vehicle to exchange the air.
11. **What does the driver have to consider if the alcohol interlock equipped car needs to be repaired?**  
The repair shop should be informed of the existence of the alcohol interlock in the vehicle and how it is operated. For health and safety purposes you should also provide them with a clean mouthpiece in case they are required to start the car in your absence. If the repair shop has to disconnect the battery, it should be done within 20 minutes. Otherwise a violation will be recorded. It is suggested you keep all receipts from the mechanic to prove the vehicle was not in your possession at the time.
12. **Will the installation of the alcohol interlock cause any damages to the vehicle or in the interior of the vehicle?**  
The installation process does not cause any damage to your car. The control box is stored under the dashboard without any drilling of holes.
13. **What does the driver have to do if a rolling retest is required?**  
If a rolling retest is required, you have 5 minutes to provide the breath sample. This is enough time to safely pull over to the side of the road and to provide the sample. Please always check your display before leaving the car. If a retest is required even though you are already at home, you must still provide the sample. Do not turn off the car without doing so, as this will be recorded as a violation.
14. **How often does the alcohol interlock data need to be downloaded?**  
The alcohol interlock must be serviced every 30 days and the unit will warn you seven days prior to the service due date. The following occur upon every service:
  - Check seals for evidence of tampering
  - Check for misuse, abuse or neglect of unit

- Download of data for VicRoads
- Test that unit is functioning properly

15. **Can the alcohol interlock device drain the vehicle battery?**

The Dräger Interlock XT uses minimum battery power. Problems only occur if there is already an electrical problem with your car, such as a defective alternator, or if the car battery is defective.

16. **Is the alcohol interlock device capable to shut off the engine or stop the vehicle?**

The alcohol interlock will not shut off the engine or stop the vehicle. It is only designed to prevent a driver under the influence from starting the vehicle. If you provide a failed retest while driving, the horn and lights will be activated but your vehicle will not stop. The horn and lights can only be deactivated when the vehicle is turned off.

17. **What if the driver loses his license or travel overseas?**

If you lose your license or travel overseas, you firstly have to let your Service Agent know the period of suspension and when you will be eligible to have your license reissued. You then have two choices. Either you have an unauthorised removal for the suspension period or time you are overseas (you will be charged for removal and re-installation) or you choose to retain the alcohol interlock in the vehicle (you will be charged the rental fee for the device each month).

18. **What if the driver moves or travels Interstate?**

Firstly contact Draeger Safety to see whether there is a location where your alcohol interlock can be serviced interstate. At the same time you must also inform your Service Agent how long you will be away or indeed if your move interstate is permanent.

If Draeger Safety can service your alcohol interlock, you will need to arrange it at least one week before your service is required. You will be charged an additional Interstate fee as per your Schedule of Fees and Charges. After hours support is not available.

19. **Is there insurance available for the alcohol interlock?**

Yes. Draeger Safety offers a Theft Protect Plan which covers the unit in the event of loss, theft or damage.

20. **What happens with the stored data – does any unauthorised person have access to any private data of the client?**

No. Draeger Safety complies with all relevant Privacy Laws and as such client data is only disclosed to authorised parties from VicRoads, Police and nominated Assessors.

21. **Does Draeger Safety authorised Service Agents install an alcohol interlock in a motorcycle?**

No, this is not part of their scope at this time.

22. **Can I keep the device after the finalisation of the program?**

Yes. But you will be required to provide a court order authorising the device's removal to your service agent. The removal will be recorded in your file. You also have the opportunity to purchase an alcohol interlock. Please discuss these options with your Service Agent.