



## **INSURANCE PREMIUM TAX (IPT) INCREASE: 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011**

### **CUSTOMER FAQ**

**December 2010**

**HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) has confirmed that Insurance Premium Tax (IPT) will increase from 5% to 6% on the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011. This document explains how this will affect you when placing motor trade insurance with us.**

#### **Q1) How is IPT applied to premiums?**

The insurers accounting scheme determines the rate of tax applied. Pitstop Motor Trade (Pitstop) work to the Special Accounting Scheme and as such the tax point is when the premium is processed on the Pitstop system. Therefore, for cases **incepting or renewing** on or after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 where the premium is processed on the Pitstop system on or after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 then Pitstop is liable for the new IPT rate e.g. 6% for the standard rate of IPT.

For cases incepting or renewing prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 where the premium is processed on the Pitstop system prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 then Pitstop is liable for the old IPT rate e.g. 5% for the standard rate of IPT.

Likewise for mid-term adjustments (MTA), an **additional premium** processed on the Pitstop system on or after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 will attract the new IPT rate e.g. 6% for the standard rate of IPT, irrespective of the inception or renewal date.

**Return premium**, refunds or cancellations, processed on the Pitstop system on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 will attract the old IPT rate of 5%, for the standard rate, if the policy incepted before the 4<sup>th</sup> January. Otherwise they will attract the new IPT rate e.g. 6%, for the standard rate, if the policy incepted on or after the 4<sup>th</sup> January.

**Example:** Policy renews on the Pitstop system 1/12/10 @5% IPT, then an additional premium MTA is processed on the Pitstop system 22/12/10 @5%, then an additional premium MTA is processed on the Pitstop system 1/2/11 @6%, then a return premium MTA is processed on the Pitstop system 1/3/11 @5% (rate used for renewal).

#### **Q2) Is IPT guaranteed within a quote guarantee period?**

Quotes produced prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 with an inception, renewal or MTA effective date before 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 will be quoted on the old IPT (5% for standard rate). Quotes produced prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 with an inception, renewal or MTA effective date after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 will be quoted on the new IPT rate (6% for standard rate).

#### **Q3) What rate of IPT rate will apply to Return premiums?**

The rate of IPT returned is based on the rate of IPT paid at inception or renewal.

**Example:** Policy incepts on the Pitstop system 1/12/10 @5% IPT, then a return premium MTA is processed on the Pitstop system 1/3/11 @ 5% (rate used at inception).

#### **Q4) What IPT rate will apply to additional premiums?**

The rate of IPT paid is based on the process date of the additional premium MTA.

**Example:** Policy incepts on the Pitstop system 1/12/10 @5% IPT, then an additional premium MTA is processed on the Pitstop system 22/12/10 @5%, then another additional premium MTA is processed on the Pitstop system 1/2/11 @6%.

**IMPORTANT:** All new business, renewals and MTA's should be notified to Pitstop immediately to allow us to process before 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 on the existing IPT rate where possible. Late notification after 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 would result in the new IPT rate being payable.

#### **Q5) How will a request for a change in renewal date be considered?**



A change to a renewal date may be considered on an individual basis, however such consideration must be compliant with the H.M Revenue and Customs (HMRC) Anti-forestalling regulations.

**Q6) How will premium instalments be handled?**

If the contract of insurance is for the whole annual period, and is processed 100% up front on the Pitstop system before the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011 for a policy incepting or renewing before the 4<sup>th</sup> January 2011, then the IPT rate is determined by the inception or renewal date. The payment and instalments arrangement does not impact the IPT rate.

**Example :** Contract of Insurance renews 1/1/11 and 100% premium agreed and processed on the MTS system prior to 4/1/11 at 5% IPT . It is agreed that 3 equal instalments are paid on 1/1/11, 1/2/11, 1/3/11. The instalments will all be paid at 5% IPT.

**Q7) If the Insured wishes to pay their premium in advance, will this influence the prevailing IPT rate?**

The date that the premium is paid will not influence the prevailing IPT rate. The IPT rate will be based on the inception, renewal or MTA effective date.