



Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles
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MEDIA RELEASE

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MORE OHIOANS REGISTERED ONLINE IN 2005

OPLATES sees nearly 600,000 transactions

COLUMBUS – The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles reported today that 2005 was a record year for online registration through the OPLATES website, www.oplates.com, with almost 600,000 Ohioans choosing to renew registrations or order license plates over the internet.

Launched in 2000 as part of Governor Taft's initiative to make vital state services available online, OPLATES allows consumers to renew their registrations or order personalized or specialty license plates over the internet. In 2005, OPLATES recorded 579,076 transactions, which represents a 16% increase over 2004. The increase includes a 63% increase in December sales over the previous December.

“Since its inception, OPLATES has seen double-digit growth every year,” said Franklin R. Caltrider, Registrar of Motor Vehicles. “Part of the growth this past year is attributable to having more and more license plate options. We receive many letters from Ohioans who like OPLATES because it is available 24 hours a day and allows people flexibility as to when to register their vehicles or order specialty plates.”

Ohio BMV is a division of the Ohio Department of Public Safety, which also includes the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services, the Ohio Emergency Management Agency, Ohio Emergency Medical Services, the Ohio Homeland Security Division, the Ohio Investigative Unit and the Ohio State Highway Patrol.