



NHTSA Interpretations 2008 - FMVSS 108 RELATED

Date	Docket#	
02/28/08	0038	Clearance and other lamps that are required to be steady-burning with no flashing exceptions cannot flash under any circumstance, even if used only in emergency circumstances.
02/28/08	0039	A motorcycle headlamp system may NOT consist of one upper beam headlamp and one headlamp that provides both upper and lower beam functions. Motorcycle headlamps can be (1) a single headlamp; (2) a two headlamp system in which each headlamp provides BOTH lower beam and upper beam functions; and (3) a two headlamp system with one headlamp providing lower beam and the other providing upper beam.
02/28/08	0040	A manufacturer could alone be liable for installing/providing hardware that the end user would use that creates a non-compliance with FMVSS 108.
02/29/08 03/03/08	0045	Ideas for improvements to traffic safety devices must be submitted as a petition, written in English, to the NHTSA Administrator. The petitioner bears the initial burden of establishing the invention's safety value and its cost-effectiveness and that optional equipment will not impair the effectiveness of required lighting equipment.
04/18/08	0079	A manufacturer asked if an electronic sign mounted to the rear of a bus to flash signaling messages to drivers would be prohibited by FMVSS 108. NHTSA does not believe that the sign would be permitted because (1) it incorporates a flashing signal from a lamp other than those specified as allowed to flash; (2) a manufacturer may not install any equipment that may "make inoperative" any of the required safety equipment; and (3) NHTSA interprets the standard as generally prohibiting electronic message boards because of the potential of impairing the effective of required lighting.
04/17/08	0082	The center of rotation and tilt (CORT) for Figure 20 Visibility is not the same as the one in ECE R.48. In ECE R.48, the CORT is the lens; in Figure 20 the CORT is the filament center, as it is in photometry per SAE J575e.
04/17/08	0083	Front sidemarker lamps are permitted on the trailer tongue of a trailer.

See following pages for additional NHTSA interpretations

NHTSA Interpretations 2008 - FMVSS 108 RELATED (Cont.)

Date	Docket#	
04/29/08	0100	It is permissible to disconnect the forward lighting components (headlamps, turn signals, marker lamps, etc.) when attaching equipment that would block the lights (for example a plow), so long as auxiliary lamps are used that meet all the requirements of FMVSS 108 for the disconnected lamps.

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