

ISSUE NUMBER

20-028-VEH

ISSUE NAME

OOSC, Part II, Item 9. Lighting Devices, (b). At Any Time - Day or Night, (4) - Electrical Connections

STATUS

Closed

Vehicle Committee

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Part II - 9.(b)(4) of the OOSC, and its associated 'Note', has caused some people to question the usage of the terminology "electrical systems" and whether or not it includes the electrical braking system on a trailer equipped with electric brakes. The OOSC literally says, "All electrical systems on towed vehicles...", which has caused some people to believe that it includes the braking system on trailers equipped with electric brakes, even though this is the 'Lighting Devices' section.

JUSTIFICATION OR NEED

Has caused confusion among some inspectors.

REQUEST FOR ACTION

Change all "electrical systems" in Part II - 9.(b)(4) of the OOSC, and its associated 'Note', to read "electrical lighting systems".

ACTION TAKEN BY COMMITTEE

There have been instances of inspectors using this section of the OOSC for electric brakes as well. The committee discussed that the intent of the OOSC condition is only supposed to apply to lighting. If electric brakes are inoperative due to the electrical cable, they should be cited as inoperative brakes and dealt with in the brake section.

It was determined through discussion that lighting could be added to the existing wording to clarify that this condition ONLY applies to the lights. The committee voted, with all in favor except one against and one abstention, to amend the North American Standard OOSC to read as follows:

9. LIGHTING DEVICES (HEADLAMPS, TAIL LAMPS, STOP LAMPS, TURN SIGNALS AND LAMPS/FLAGS ON PROJECTING LOADS)

b. At Any Time - Day or Night

(4) All electrical lighting systems on towed vehicle(s) inoperative due to no electrical connection (e.g., unplugged or loose pigtail). (393.23)

NOTE: After electrical connection is re-established, all towed vehicle(s) electrical lighting systems shall be inspected and, if applicable, recorded as per Operational Policy 14 – Enhancing Roadside Inspection and Enforcement Data Uniformity.

This amendment was approved by the board of directors and will be subsequently added to the ballot for vote in the fall of 2021.