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STANDARDS BULLETIN 2007-07

INTERPRETATION: ULC OPTICAL WARNING DEVICE REQUIREMENTS

CAN/ULC-S515-04, Standard for Automobile Fire Fighting Apparatus

The following is an interpretation by the ULC Subcommittee on Automobile Fire Fighting Apparatus on CAN/ULC-S515-04, Standard for Automobile Fire Fighting Apparatus, with regards to the requirements that apply to optical warning device requirements.

The request for interpretation originates from Clause 12.7.1.8 of CAN/ULC-S515-04 concerning the optical warning devices, which states:

"Fire fighting apparatus shall have an optical warning system capable of two separate signaling modes during emergency operations:

- a) One mode shall signal to drivers and pedestrians that the fire fighting apparatus is responding to an emergency and is calling for the right-of-way;
and*
- b) One mode shall signal that the fire fighting apparatus is stopped and is blocking the right-of-way."*

The question was raised whether the intent of the clause to mean that the optical warning system **shall** have two separate signalling modes "responding" and "blocking"?

In response to this question, the consensus of the ULC Subcommittee is that the optical warning system **is** required to have two separate signalling modes "responding" and "blocking". This is the interpretation that will apply to Clause 12.7.1.8 of the Standard. Although it is often the case that different warning light colours and different optical powers are used for these two modes, the Standard does not prevent the same warning light colours or the same optical powers from being used provided the requirements of Section 12.7 are met.

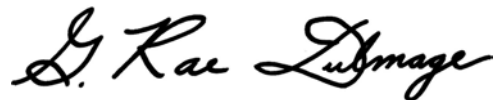


This Standards Bulletin is being issued in order to provide guidance and clarification for manufacturers of automobile firefighting apparatus, buyers, users, and the industry in general, such that the application of the intent of this clause is consistent with the ULC Subcommittee interpretation.

Should you require any additional information, please contact Monique Grabowski at (613) 755-2729 ext. 6226 or email: Monique.Grabowski@ca.ul.com

This Standard can be ordered through our website at www.ulc.ca and selecting ULC Online Store. Next, enter "S515" in Search box and click Search.

Yours truly,



G. Rae Dulmage
Director, Standards Department

