

Chapter Hy 22

FLASHING TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS

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Hy 22.01 General. (1) **AUTHORITY FOR THESE RULES.** Pursuant to section 349.08 (1), Wis. Stats., the commission prescribes these rules for the design, installation and operation of flashing traffic control signals.

(2) **APPLICATION.** These rules shall apply to all flashing traffic control signals, including those presently installed.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62.

Hy 22.02 Effective date of regulations. All installations of flashing traffic control signals made after January 1, 1963, shall comply with these rules. Installations made prior to January 1, 1963, shall comply with Chapter Hy 15 as published in the Wisconsin Administrative Register for January, 1956, or with these rules. After September 30, 1970, all installations on all highways shall comply with these rules.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62; am. Register, April, 1967, No. 136, eff. 5-1-67; am. Register, September, 1970, No. 177, eff. 10-1-70.

Hy 22.03 Design of flashing signals. (1) **COLOR, SIZE AND VISIBILITY OF SIGNALS.** Flashing traffic control signals shall conform to the following design standards:

(a) The color of the lens shall be red for stop and yellow for caution, in accordance with Wisconsin Statutes.

(b) The lens shall have a visible diameter of not less than 7¾ inches. When a yellow lens with a visible diameter greater than 7¾ inches is used the wattage shall be reduced so that the brilliance of the illuminated lens will be equivalent to the brilliance of a 7¾-inch lens with a 67-watt lamp.

(c) The illuminating element, lens, reflector and visor shall each be of such design as to render the lens when illuminated clearly visible to traffic facing the signal at all distances up to 1000 feet under all atmospheric conditions except dense fog.

(2) **INTERFERENCE SUPPRESSION.** All flashing contacts shall be equipped with filters for suppression of radio interference.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62.

Hy 22.04 Installation of flashing signals. (1) **HEIGHT OF SIGNAL HEAD.** The lowest part of a flashing signal shall be located as nearly as practical at the following height:

Location	Height above pavement	
	Minimum	Maximum
On an obstruction -----	4'	--
On a safety zone -----	4'	8'
At the side of the road—rural -----	8'	17'
At the side of the street—urban -----	8'	17'
Suspended over the road -----	15'	17'

(2) USE OF SIGNS WITH FLASHING SIGNALS. (a) A flashing red signal shall always be accompanied by a standard Stop sign located as described in chapter Hy 11 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code. When post-mounted, it shall be located above the Stop sign and when overhead-mounted, it shall be located adjacent to the Stop sign.

(b) A flashing yellow signal shall always be accompanied by the proper warning or regulatory sign placed at the normal transverse and longitudinal location for that particular sign.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62.

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Hy 22.05 Operation of flashing signals. (1) RATE AND DURATION OF FLASH. The illuminating element in a flashing red (stop) or flashing yellow (caution) signal shall be flashed at a rate of not less than 50 nor more than 60 times per minute. The illuminated period of each flash shall be not less than half and not more than two thirds of the total elapsed time.

(2) PERIOD OF OPERATION. (a) *Red signal.* Flashing red (stop) signals shall be operated continuously throughout the 24-hour period.

(b) *Yellow signal.* Flashing yellow (caution) signals shall be operated only during those hours when the hazard or regulation exists.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62

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Hy 22.06 Maintenance of flashing signals. (1) PAINTING. The signal heads, supporting hardware and metal standard, if used, shall be painted highway yellow except that the inside of visors and hoods shall be painted a dull black. Backboards shall be painted dull black or highway yellow.

(2) GENERAL. Maintenance of the equipment including the servicing of the mechanism, replacement of lamps, cleaning of optical unit, painting, etc., shall be carried out in such a manner that the flasher will be operating satisfactorily at all times.

(3) ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION. The equipment and manner of its installation shall conform to the Wisconsin electrical code.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1962, No. 80, eff. 9-1-62.

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