

## Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement

NOTICE # 1-2009  
January 6, 2009

### Vehicle Safety and Standards

## NOTICE

**To All Designated Inspection Facilities and Authorized Inspectors for School Buses**

### **Re: School Buses equipped with White Strobe Lamp**

This notice applies to **ALL** school buses which are required to be inspected under *Motor Vehicle Act Regulation, Division 25*.

All equipment and safety standards, which apply to the vehicle inspection program, are contained in the Vehicle Inspection Manual, *Motor Vehicle Act (MVA)*, *Motor Vehicle Act Regulations (MVAR)*, applicable Canadian Standards Association documents (CSA) as well as the applicable safety standards in the CMVSS.

School buses manufactured in compliance with Canadian Standards Association D250-07 may be equipped with a white strobe lamp device on the roof of the vehicle. Section 6.19.6 of this standard states:

“If a bus is equipped with a flashing strobe lamp, it shall be white, centered on the roof in the rear third of the bus, be in accordance with SAE J1318, be Class 1, and not exceed a maximum energy level of 18 J. It shall have a switch lighted in the ON position or an indicator lamp that is visible to the driver.”

Pursuant to *Motor Vehicle Act Regulation* 4.28 (b), school buses manufactured in compliance with CMVSS and CSA D250-07 standards may be equipped with a white flashing strobe lamp provided that:

- 1) the lamp meets all requirements as defined in CSA D250-07 section 6.19.6, and
- 2) the device is only activated to indicate vehicle location on highway during adverse weather conditions (ie. dense fog) or when stationary.

The white strobe lamp is not intended to replace any other required school bus lighting devices and should be used in conjunction with other lighting equipment as an indicator of school bus location to other drivers.

Should any further information be required, please contact Brian Kangas, Program Coordinator, Vehicle Safety & Standards at (250) 953 – 4008 or [brian.kangas@gov.bc.ca](mailto:brian.kangas@gov.bc.ca)

Regards,



Greg Gilks  
Director  
Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement