

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 436-7
Trans 309

Trans 309.12 Tires and wheels. (1) Each tire shall have not less than 1/16 inch tread depth. The depth shall be measured at 2 points not less than 15 inches apart in any major tread groove at or near the center of the tire.

(2) Wheels, tires and brake drum assemblies shall be in balance up to speeds of 70 miles per hour.

(3) Snow tires with tungsten carbide studs may be installed on an ambulance from the 15th day of November each year through the 1st day of April of the following year.

(4) Recapped tires may not be installed on any ambulance.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1986, No. 370, eff. 11-1-86.

Trans 309.13 Batteries. All ambulances shall be equipped with a labeled "Battery Selector Device" 2-battery system. All batteries should be securely attached to prevent dislocation in the event of an accident. When mounted outside of the engine compartment the battery shall be contained in a closed, drained, weather-tight and vented compartment in the body skirt, which shall retain the battery in the event of an upset or rollover. The battery compartment door or cover shall be secured by a latch. The battery cables may not be spliced.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1986, No. 370, eff. 11-1-86.

Trans 309.14 Environmental climatic equipment. All ambulances shall be equipped with a complete climate environmental system to supply and maintain clean air conditions and an inside temperature at a comfortable level in both driver and patient compartments. The various systems for heating, ventilating and air conditioning may be separate or combination systems that permit independent control of environment within each compartment. The driver and patient compartment environments may not be dependent upon one another in any way.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1986, No. 370, eff. 11-1-86.

Trans 309.15 Exterior ambulance lighting. (1) **GENERAL LAMPS.** Ambulances shall be equipped with headlamps, directional signal lamps, tail lamps, stop lamps, parking lamps, sidemarker lamps, license plate lamps, backup lamps, hazard warning lamps, clearance lamps and spot lamps meeting the requirements of ch. 348 of the Wisconsin Statutes. Alternating headlamps are not permitted. ch. [348]

(2) **EMERGENCY WARNING LAMPS.** (a) All ambulances shall be equipped with warning lamps consisting of:

1. Except as provided in par. (b), 2 top-corner mounted alternating flashing red lamps facing forward with a white flashing light mounted at an equal distance between them;

2. Except as provided in par. (c), 2 top-corner mounted alternating flashing red lights facing to the rear;

3. Two top-corner mounted alternating flashing red lights facing to the right side;

4. Two top-corner mounted alternating flashing red lights facing to the left side; and

5. At least 2, red or red and white, flashing or rotating warning lamps located in, on, behind or in front of the vehicle's radiator grill. The lamps shall be designed and mounted so as to be plainly visible and understandable from a distance of 500 feet during both normal sunlight and hours of darkness.

(b) The lights required in par. (a) 1 may be replaced with a light bar with at least 2 rotating red or red and white lights which covers the same area.

(c) The lights required in par. (a) 2 may each be replaced with a rotating red light revolving on a horizontal plane.

(d) Emergency warning lamps may not be obstructed by open doors.

(e) Ambulance service providers shall not be required to alter emergency warning lamps already installed on ambulances in service prior to the effective date of this rule.

(3) **FLOODLAMPS.** Sealed flood lighting units shall be located at the rear and on the left and right sides of the ambulance. Floodlamps shall be integrally mounted below the roof line but not less than 75 inches above the ground and may not be obstructed by open doors. Each flood lamp shall have a minimum of 800 candlepower output. Flood lighting at the rear shall be arranged to illuminate the ground area immediately surrounding the loading doors. The switches shall be shielded and shall control each side separately.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1986, No. 370, eff. 11-1-86.

Trans 309.16 Interior ambulance lighting. (1) DRIVER COMPARTMENT. The driver compartment shall be equipped with a dome lamp, instrument panel lamps and indicators, master switch panel or console lamps and door-open indicator. The lighting shall be designed and located so that no glare is reflected from surrounding areas to the driver's eyes or line of vision from instrument and switch control panels or other areas that are illuminated while the vehicle is in motion.

(2) **PATIENT COMPARTMENT.** The patient compartment shall be equipped with overhead or dome lighting and switch panel lighting. Only white colored lamps or lenses may be used in the patient compartment. Patient compartment lights shall be automatically activated when the entrance doors are opened or when otherwise controlled by the driver's master switch. Interior fixtures shall be nearly flush mounted and may not protrude more than 1.5 inches. Florescent lights that operate on 12 volts may be used, but they may not extend more than 4 inches from the mounting surface. Florescent fixtures may be mounted at the intersection of the ceiling and walls, and shall be equipped with removeable covers that positively lock in place.

(3) **ILLUMINATION LEVELS.** Normal illumination in all patient areas shall be not less than 15 foot candle intensity measured along the entire center line of the clear floor without any outside ambient light. The primary cot and squad bench shall be provided with 35 to 55 foot candles of illumination measured on at least 90% of their surface. Lighting levels shall be controlled by the ambulance attendant with switches or with a fireproofed Underwriter's Laboratory approved rheostat.

History: Cr. Register, October, 1986, No. 370, eff. 11-1-86.

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