

## Chapter Hy 16

## FLASHING TRAFFIC CONTROL SIGNALS

Hy 16.01	General	Hy 16.03	Installation of flashing signs and signals
Hy 16.02	Design of flashing signs and signals	Hy 16.04	Maintenance of flashing signs and signals

**Hy 16.01 General.** (1) **AUTHORITY FOR THESE REGULATIONS.** Pursuant to authority contained in section 85.71(2), Wis. Stats., the commission prescribes the following regulations for the design, installation, and operation of flashing traffic control signals.

*No section 85*

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

(3) **PREVIOUS REGULATIONS.** These regulations supersede the regulations prescribed by the commission on October 11, 1945, and published on October 18, 1945, and revised on May 17, 1949, published on September 6, 1950, and appearing on pages 234-239, inclusive, of the 1950 edition of the Red Book.

**Hy 16.02 Design of flashing signs and signals.** (1) **DESIGN OF OPTICAL UNIT.** (a) *Size of lens.* Circular lenses shall have a visible diameter of not less than 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". Lenses of other shapes shall have an area of at least 25 square inches. Flashing warning signs having illuminated wording shall have such wording of a size at least as great as the wording on the corresponding standard sign adopted by the state highway commission.

(b) *Color of indication.*

1. As prescribed by the statutes, the following colors shall be used for the lens or wording on flashing signs and signals:

Red—"Stop" signs and signals only

Yellow—Warning signs such as "Slow," "Turn," and warning signals, obstruction markers, etc.

2. The color of the red and yellow lens shall conform to the provisions of section Hy 15.02.

(c) *Visibility of lens.* When illuminated, the lens of a flashing sign or signal shall be visible at any distance from 10 ft. to 300 ft. under all light and atmospheric conditions except dense fog. When viewed from the usual angles the entire surface of the lens shall appear illuminated.

(d) *Visors.* Each optical unit of a flashing sign or signal shall be equipped with a visor as provided in section Hy 15.02 so that the unit will be visible during the day and so that it will not be confusing to traffic which it is not intended to warn or control.

(2) **DESIGN OF FLASHING MECHANISM—RATE OF FLASH.** The mechanism provided to produce the flashing operation shall cause the light to flash at a rate of not less than 50 nor more than 75 times per minute. The illuminated period shall be at least as long as the dark period.

**Hy 16.03 Installation of flashing signs and signals.** (1) **HEIGHT OF SIGNAL HEAD OR SIGN.** The center of a flashing signal or sign shall be located as nearly as practical at the following height:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Height above pavement</i>	
	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
On Obstruction -----	4'	--
On Safety Zones -----	4'	12'
At the side of the road—rural -----	6'	8'
At the side of the street—urban -----	6'	10'
Suspended over the road -----	15'	18'

(2) **LOCATION OF SIGNAL HEAD OR SIGN.** The flashing sign shall be placed in the same location as a sign used for the same type of hazard. In the case of certain obstructions such as bridge piers, etc., and safety zones, the signal head or sign shall be placed on the object. In the case of other hazards such as curves, the flashing sign or signal shall be placed in advance of the hazard a suitable distance. Flashing "STOP" signs and signals shall be placed at the normal location for a "STOP" sign and shall not be suspended over the roadway on a cable or mast arm.

(3) **MOUNTING OF SIGNAL HEAD OR SIGN.** Flashing sign and signals shall be mounted on a suitable post either on the object of which they warn or at the side of the roadway at the proper height.

**Hy 16.04 Maintenance of flashing signs and signals.** (1) **PAINTING.** The signal heads supporting hardware and standard, if used solely to support the flasher, shall be painted Federal yellow.

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