



## FIX-N-FAX

(No.132 September 2011)

Number 116

**Equipment Standard**

**Mandatory Compliance**

Date: September, 2011

### **BULLDOZER STROBE AND AUDIBLE ALARM/PA SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

In August of 1990, the results of the Bulldozer Operations Review determined that such safety devices as roof mounted strobe lights and audible alarm/pa systems were needed on CAL FIRE bulldozers. The directions from this review were that ALL CAL FIRE bulldozers would be equipped with such devices by the 1991 fire season. This Fix-N-FAX is to set a mandatory compliance and usage policy for these safety devices to be installed on all CAL FIRE bulldozers.

The strobe light is a wing tip light from a Cessna aircraft and is available from Whelen Engineering (Part# A625). Whelen Engineering also provides the power supply unit (Part# A490A TS-CF-14 to 18 Volts). A fused 12-volt power lead is to come from the key switch to an on/off toggle switch. The toggle switch is to be mounted and labeled at the same location where other light controls are mounted. Activation of the toggle switch supplies power to the strobe equipment. The wiring schematics are available with the purchase of the power supply unit. The light fixture is to be mounted on the top of the bulldozer at the rear edge of the cab. On the newer bulldozers the strobe light can be incorporated into or on top of the guard for the A/C condensers. Under no circumstances should the light exceed the legal height requirements. The strobe protective guards are available from Davis Equipment Facility.

During this same time, an audible alarm/pa system was developed to give the operator another means of communicating with those who are working in the area of the machine. With its unique siren tone, the operator is able to warn personnel working down slope or below the bulldozer of any hazards. Federal Touchmaster provides this audible alarm/pa system (Part# UTM-902). This warning device is to be installed in the cab at a location convenient to the operator. The installation is similar to the installation of any other siren control device. Installation instructions are available in the package. All installations are to be completed and operational as soon as possible. If there are any questions contact your Unit Fleet Manager.

## Strobe Light Usage Policy

The **strobe light** shall be used intermittently to assist air and/or ground resources in identifying the visual position and identification of a bulldozer. The strobe light shall not be used continuously unless an Operator is in distress. If an Operator is in distress, the strobe shall remain activated until help arrives.

## Audible Alarm Usage Policy

The **audible alarm** shall be used intermittently as a warning device for ground crews working around or below bulldozer operations of hazards such as falling rocks or trees. After such hazards have been mitigated, the alarm shall be turned off. When an Operator is in distress, the audible alarm shall be activated in conjunction with the strobe light and remain activated until help arrives. Operators in distress may not be able to communicate by radio. A constant audible alarm is used to alert nearby ground crews of an emergency situation that requires their attention.

## Electric Horn

The standard equipment electric horn provided by the dozer manufacturer shall be used for normal warning during routine operations. This is consistent with horns on other mobile equipment and [4313.3](#) of the procedures handbook.

The Unit Fleet Manager shall have oversight and approve all installations and mountings. The Unit Fleet Manager may request advice, assistance and resource information from the Region Fleet manager.

Any deviation from this policy will be considered a **vehicle modification** and must have prior written approval as directed in the [Mobile Equipment Management Procedures Handbook Section 6820](#).

Part Numbers:

**STROBES:**

Flash Tube	A625
Power Supply	A490A, TS-CF-14 to 18 Volts
Whelen Engineering	860-526-9504

**SIREN/PA SYSTEM:**

Control Unit	Touchmaster UTM-902
Speaker	100 Watt
Federal Signal	1-800-854-3375



The picture shown above is the strobe light components.  
The flash tube and power supply were purchased from Whelen Engineering.  
The strobe light guard is available from Davis Equipment Facility.

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