

Vehicle maintained:

Lights

Use this guide to help lead a discussion with employees to raise awareness about the importance of vehicle maintenance, specifically related to lights. Empower drivers to recognize possible issues and minimize their risk on the road—making it safer for everyone. Use the form on Page 2 to record meeting details.

Lights play a crucial role in safety on the road. However, they are easy to overlook during driver inspections especially when it's daylight and visibility seems less critical. Drivers should prioritize light inspections, regardless of the time of day. Regularly checking turn signals, hazard lights, and stop lamps to ensure they are functioning correctly. Make sure that drivers consistently check lights prior to leaving for the day.

Commercial motor vehicle light violations

For commercial motor vehicles, some light violations can be considered out of service violations that will interrupt the driver's ability to complete their trip for that day. These violations will also be added to the company's Safety Measurement Score (SMS).

1 Light maintenance awareness:

- Drivers must recognize that vehicle lights are required to be in working order, even when they are not necessarily turned on.
- Low beam headlights should function properly, regardless of whether the operator is driving during daylight hours.
- Some states mandate the use of headlights in adverse weather conditions such as rain or fog. Be aware of state regulations and requirements.

2 Visibility and accident prevention:

- Clear visibility of lights is crucial for accident prevention.
- Rear stop lamps and turn signals often accumulate dirt, reducing their visibility.
- Despite challenging weather conditions (such as cold or rain), drivers should try to wipe their lights clean during vehicle inspections.

3 Trailer light responsibility:

- Drivers with power units connected to trailers should ensure a secure electrical connection.
- Before departure, verify that trailer lights are functioning correctly.

4 Critical checks:

- **Verify** that all turn signals, stop lamps, and hazard lamps are operational.
- These lights play a vital role in communication and safety on the road.

5 Reflective tape for visibility:

- Conspicuity or reflective tape is **mandatory** and should be placed in designated locations.
- This highly reflective tape enhances visibility, especially in low-light conditions.

For additional information related to driver safety, visit [MyNSightOnline.com/DriveThe5](https://www.nationwide.com/MyNSightOnline.com/DriveThe5)

For further guidance, refer to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration 49 CFR Part 393 Subpart B (ecfr.gov/current/title-49/part-393/subpart-B).



For assistance with risk management services or safety resources, contact us at RMSolutions@nationwide.com or 1-800-260-1356.

Toolbox Talk

Date: ____/____/____

Vehicle maintained: Lights

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Discussion notes:
