

**Division of State Patrol
Informational Memorandum**

8-03-1

**Tab 4
School Bus Inspection Manual**

TOPIC: Eight Light to Four Light Conversion

Background: School bus manufacturers and dealers often resell buses from other states that were equipped with eight light warning lamp systems. During the recertification process for Wisconsin eight light systems must be converted to four light systems to comply with Tr. 300.54.

Industry and school bus carriers are concerned with the cost and the weather tightness of the warning lamp conversions which have been accomplished in the past by removing the amber lamp assemblies and fitting metal plates over the resulting holes. This is labor intensive and may not result in an ideal seal. An alternative method has been used in some parts of the state for two or more years that all inspectors should be made aware of.

Decision: An approved alternative method for conversion is as follows. The amber warning lamps are to be made non-functioning by disconnecting or removing the bulbs or other light emitting devices. The lenses are to be etched to ensure the black paint that is to be applied to them adheres regardless of long-term exposure to the elements. This method will be re-evaluated if the lens paint does not hold up. See photo below.

Issued August 29, 2003/DP

