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SAE J279 OCT84

**Snowmobile Tail
Lamp (Rear Position
Lamp)**

SAE Recommended Practice
Reaffirmed October 1984

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SNOWMOBILE TAIL LAMP (REAR POSITION LAMP)

NOTE: This SAE Recommended Practice is intended as a guide toward standard practice, but may be subject to frequent change to keep pace with experience and technical advances. Hence, its use where flexibility of revision is impractical, is not recommended.

1. SCOPE: This recommended practice provides test methods and requirements for tail lamps for snowmobiles.
2. DEFINITIONS:
 - 2.1 Tail Lamp: Lamp used to designate the rear of a snowmobile by a steady-burning, low-intensity light.
 - 2.2 Multiple-Compartment Lamp: A device which gives its indication by two or more separately lighted areas which are joined by one or more common parts such as a housing or lens.
 - 2.3 Multiple Lamp Arrangement: An array of two or more separated lamps on each side of the snowmobile which operate together to give a signal.
3. LABORATORY REQUIREMENTS:
 - 3.1 A multiple compartment lamp or multiple lamps may be used.
 - 3.2 The following sections from SAE J575 are a part of this recommended practice:
 - 3.2.1 Section B - Samples for Test
 - 3.2.2 Section C - Lamp Bulbs
 - 3.2.3 Section D - Laboratory Facilities
 - 3.2.4 Section E - Vibration Test

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3.2.5 Section F - Moisture Test

3.2.6 Section G - Dust Test

3.2.7 Section H - Corrosion Test

3.2.8 Section J - Photometry

3.2.9 Section L - Warpage Test on Devices with Plastic Lenses

3.3 Plastic Materials: Any plastic materials used in optical parts shall comply with the requirements set forth in SAE J576.

3.4 Color Test: The color of the light from a tail lamp shall be red. (See SAE J578.)

3.5 If the tail lamp is optically combined with another lamp such as a stop lamp or turn signal and a two-filament bulb is used, the bulb shall have an indexing base and the socket shall be designed so that bulbs with nonindexing bases cannot be used. As a matter of information, attention is called to typical sockets shown in SAE J567.

3.6 Photometric Requirements:

3.6.1 All beam candela measurements shall be made with the incandescent filament of the signal lamp at least 10 ft (3 m) from the photometric screen. The H-V axis shall be taken as parallel to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle. When compartments or lamps are photometered together, the H-V axis shall intersect the midpoint between the optical centers (filament).

3.6.2 Beam candela measurements of multiple compartment lamp or multiple lamp arrangements shall be made by either of the following methods:

(a) All compartments or lamps may be photometered together, provided that a line from the optical axis (filament centers) of each compartment or lamp to the center of the photometer sensing device does not make an angle of more than 0.6 deg with the photometer (H-V) axis.

(b) Each compartment or lamp may be photometered separately by aligning its axis with the photometer and adding the value at each test point.

3.6.3 Table 1 lists design candela requirements for a tail lamp.

4. INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS: The following requirements apply to the device as used on the vehicle and are not part of the laboratory test requirements and procedures.

Visibility of the tail lamp shall not be obstructed by any part of the vehicle throughout the photometric test angles for the lamp, unless the lamp is designed to comply with all photometric and visibility requirements with these obstructions considered. Signal from lamps on both sides of the vehicle shall be visible through a horizontal angle from 45 deg to the left to 45 deg to the right. Where more than one lamp or optical area is lighted on each side of the snowmobile, only one such area on each side need comply. To be considered visible, the lamp must provide an unobstructed projected illuminated area of outer lens surface, excluding reflex, at least 2 in² (129 mm²) in extent, measured at 45 deg to the longitudinal axis of the vehicle.

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