



## TECH TIP

### Side Marker Light Glare When Backing



### SIDE DIRECTIONAL/MARKER LIGHTS

Recently we have had reports of drivers when backing being “blinded” by the side marker lights on the units delivered with the SoundOff 6” oval directional/marker lights.

These lights are designed with basically 2 lights in the housing and the rear light is the directional where the front light is the marker light. Being LED, it is very bright and as you can see in Figure #1 when dark and trying to back the glare in the mirror can make it difficult to see.

We have verified that these lights are “ONLY” required to flash as turns. Seeing as these lights are “pre-wired” we have gotten with SoundOff and verified that if the proper procedure is followed to ensure no water wicking through cut wires the warranty will not be affected.

### NEW BUS OPTION #LGT-132

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Figure #1

Being that the lights plug into the harness which is in a pretty protected area, the only real water that we need to be concerned with is the condensation from temperature change.

Basically what we are doing is to cut the red and black wires on the light and then splicing the red and black from the light to the red wire going to the plug (Figure #2). There are 2 preferred methods to properly seal and ensure no water wicking, using “heat shrink” butt connectors or sealing by wrapping with electrical tape (Figures #3 & #4)

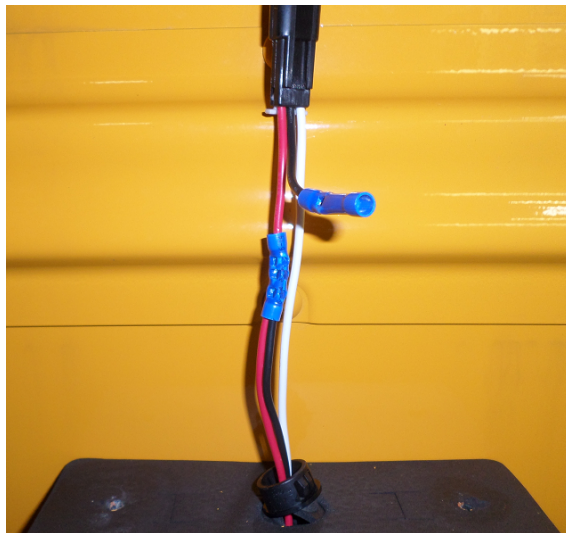


Figure #1

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Figure #3

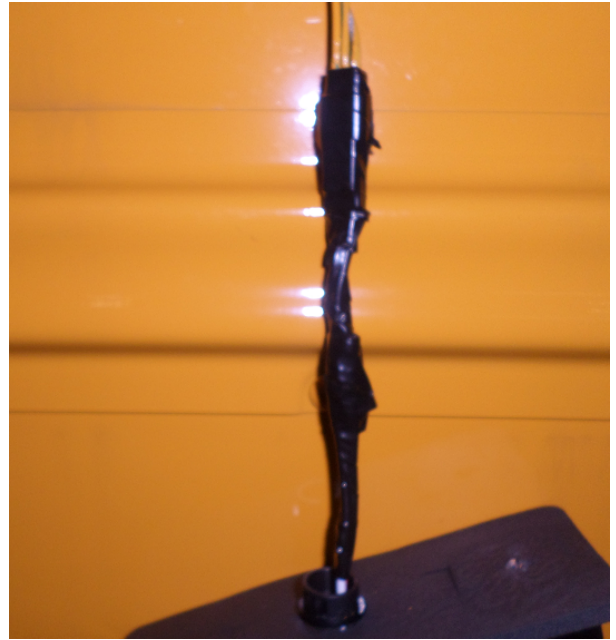


Figure #4

### **UPDATE – 9/23/2019**

**It was brought to our attention that the front light flashing cause issues as some operators require drivers to have their flashers on while backing and when the front light is flashing it creates an issue seeing in the mirrors.**

**We contacted DOT and they said that they do not have a regulation concerning the side marker and that it is a Federal standard. We then contacted Blue Bird and learned that FMVSS #108 is the standard for the light and does not require nor prohibit them therefore there is no guidance. The lights as they come from Blue Bird have the front light as a marker and the rear as a turn.**

**If you wish to have just the rear portion of the light flash, simply cut the black wire to the light and follow the preceding procedure to ensure no water wicking**

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