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ONR Signal Standards Signal System Inspections & Tests (SSIT)

SSIT-1001(b)2 Warning System Light Units & Signs - Operation

Purpose

These instructions describe the tests required to check the lights and signs at grade crossing warning systems to ensure they are functioning as intended and are in good condition.

Test Intervals

Tests are performed when installed, as required, and at least once a month as prescribed in SSIT-7 Signal System Inspection and Test Intervals.

Rail Safety

Employee shall ensure the site is safe for employees, the public, vehicular traffic and train operations as defined in SSIT-8 Protecting Train Operations prior to performing tests and inspections.

Procedure

The following tests are to be performed at each crossing warning system location:

Step	Procedure
Clean Lights and Signs	 Check light units and signs are maintained for maximum visibility for all environmental conditions. Clean with appropriate cleaning solution and soft cloth as required.
2. Check Lights and Signs: Inspection	 → Check lights, signs, and backgrounds in accordance with SSIT-1103 Inspecting Painted Surfaces. → Check lights and signs are free of rust and decay. → Check lenses have no cracks. → Verify that lenses are properly positioned. If any major issues: Perform repairs as required. For major repairs, report to the ONR S&C Supervisor prior to performing repairs. Record in site Log Book.
3. Clear Obstructions	 Remove any object on Railway property that may obstruct the lights and/or signs. If obstructions cannot be moved due to size or ownership: Contact the ONR S&C Supervisor to arrange removal of obstructions.
4. Activate Warning System	 Open test switch. If warning system fails to activate: Arrange to have Positive Protection placed on the crossing until resolved. Report to the ONR S&C Supervisor. Record in site Log Book.
5. Check Lights and Signs: Sightlines	 → Check signs for reflectivity along approach. → Check lights and signs are visible on all road approaches. → Check light operation and flash rate. If lights not illuminated or flashing: Refer to SSIT-1001(e)1 Lamp Voltage. If lights misaligned: Refer to SSIT-1001(e)3 Light Units - Alignment.
6. Restore Warning System	Close test switch.

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Step		Procedure	
7.	Check Lights on Standby Power	→ Check operation when system is switched to standby power. Refer to SSIT-1001(b)5 Standby Power Operation for procedure.	•
8.	Update Log Book	Add any notes of issues observed, or adjustments made.	
9.	Complete Test Form	 Record the test as completed on Grade Crossing Warning System Test Form. 	