

The 205 series strobe light assemblies require the system input voltage to be above 12V to function optimally over all temperatures.

***Note:** Some components that may be determined to be ‘at fault’ are not necessarily defective. The fault may be caused by loose connections, dirty contacts, low-voltage etc. as well as worn parts. The situations listed below are the most often encountered in the field. If further help is needed, contact the Engineering department at Specialty Manufacturing Company.

SYMPTOMS:

- A- **Strobe light will not work all.**
- B- **Strobe light takes several minutes to activate or “warm up” when it’s cold. (below 32° F) But works fine when it’s warm out or when the bus is in the heated garage.**
- C- **Strobe lights work but are erratic: Sporadic flash cycles or complete absence of flash for significant periods of time.**

CAUSES:

1) **Low Voltage Conditions** - Check input voltage at the power pack with a meter that reads the value of the voltage. This should measure > 12 Volts. Preferably 12.8V. (*This is the red wire to the blade fuse on the outside of the black plastic power pack box.*)

- If the input voltage is > 12V, then the power pack may be defective. But, first, it needs to be determined conclusively that the Xenon bulb is functional. Go to step number 2 to determine this.
- If the input voltage is < 12 Volts, then it’s recommended that the voltage source be checked to insure that it originates with the correct +12V. There may be voltage loss somewhere between the source and the strobe light. Also, typically, the voltage is much higher when the bus is running and it’s recommended that the voltage be checked in this condition.

WARNING!! Do NOT measure OUTPUT voltage to the Xenon bulbs!
It is high voltage and could cause injury!

- 2) **Defective or “Blown” strobe light (Xenon Bulb)** – Sometimes this can be seen by noticing a blackening at the bottom of the glass tube. The best way to identify a bad strobe light bulb is to test it with a **known good** power pack or use a **known good** light (Xenon bulb) to verify conclusively the power pack is functioning at it’s strobe light output. If the bulb is determined good then it is the power pack which is defective (replace the power pack)
- 3) **Plastic case on powerpacks are bowed. Is this a defective unit?**
No. This is due to the size of the metal base plate. It has no affect on the functionality of the unit.
- 4) **The flash rate of this strobe is faster than the “old” one I took off. Is this “normal”?**
Yes. The flash rate of the newer version of the strobe power packs is much faster. If the strobe power pack is from 2004 or newer, it is most likely the “new” flash rate. This is “normal”.
- 5) **Does the “new” faster flash rate meet our state specs?**
Yes. The double flash rate of the strobe power packs are counted as a single flash so the flash rate still meets FMVSS131 requirements.