Automotive: Lightbars

Warnings to Installers

Whelen’s emergency vehicle warning devices must be properly mounted and wired in order to be effective and safe. Read and follow all of Whelen’s written instructions when installing or using this device. Emergency vehicles are often operated under high speed stressful conditions which must be accounted for when installing all emergency warning devices. Controls should be placed within convenient reach of the operator so that they can operate the system without taking their eyes off the roadway. Emergency warning devices can require high electrical voltages and/or currents. Properly protect and use caution around live electrical connections. Grounding or shorting of electrical connections can cause high current arcing, which can cause personal injury and/or vehicle damage, including fire. Many electronic devices used in emergency vehicles can create or be affected by electromagnetic interference. Therefore, after installation of any electronic device it is necessary to test all electronic equipment simultaneously to ensure that they operate free of interference from other components within the vehicle. Never power emergency warning equipment from the same circuit or share the same grounding circuit with radio communication equipment. All devices should be mounted in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions and securely fastened to vehicle elements of sufficient strength to withstand the forces applied to the device. Driver and/or passenger air bags (SRS) will affect the way equipment should be mounted. This device should be mounted by permanent installation and within the zones specified by the vehicle manufacturer, if any. Any device mounted in the deployment area of an air bag will damage or reduce the effectiveness of the air bag and may damage or dislodge the device. Installer must be sure that this device, its mounting hardware and electrical supply wiring does not interfere with the air bag or the SRS wiring or sensors. Mounting the unit inside the vehicle by a method other than permanent installation is not recommended as unit may become dislodged during swerving; sudden braking or collision. Failure to follow instructions can result in personal injury. Whelen assumes no liability for any loss resulting from the use of this warning device. PROPER INSTALLATION COMBINED WITH OPERATOR TRAINING IN THE PROPER USE OF EMERGENCY WARNING DEVICES IS ESSENTIAL TO INSURE THE SAFETY OF EMERGENCY PERSONNEL AND THE PUBLIC.

WARNING:
This product can expose you to chemicals including Methylene Chloride which is known to the State of California to cause cancer, and Bisphenol A, which is known to the State of California to cause birth defects or other reproductive harm. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

- Proper installation of this product requires the installer to have a good understanding of automotive electronics, systems and procedures.
- Whelen Engineering requires the use of waterproof butt splices and/or connectors if that connector could be exposed to moisture.
- Any holes, either created or utilized by this product, should be made both air- and watertight using a sealant recommended by your vehicle manufacturer.
- Failure to use specified installation parts and/or hardware will void the product warranty.
- If mounting this product requires drilling holes, the installer MUST be sure that no vehicle components or other vital parts could be damaged by the drilling process. Check both sides of the mounting surface before drilling begins. Also de-burr the holes and remove any metal shards or remnants. Install grommets into all wire passage holes.
- If this manual states that this product may be mounted with suction cups, magnets, tape or Velcro®, clean the mounting surface with a 50/50 mix of isopropyl alcohol and water and dry thoroughly.
- Do not install this product or route any wires in the deployment area of your air bag. Equipment mounted or located in the air bag deployment area will damage or reduce the effectiveness of the air bag, or become a projectile that could cause serious personal injury or death. Refer to your vehicle owner’s manual for the air bag deployment area. The User/Installer assumes full responsibility to determine proper mounting location, based on providing ultimate safety to all passengers inside the vehicle.
- For this product to operate at optimum efficiency, a good electrical connection to chassis ground must be made. The recommended procedure requires the product ground wire to be connected directly to the NEGATIVE (-) battery post (this does not include products that use cigar power cords).
- If this product uses a remote device for activation or control, make sure that this device is located in an area that allows both the vehicle and the device to be operated safely in any driving condition.
- Do not attempt to activate or control this device in a hazardous driving situation.
- This product contains either strobe light(s), halogen light(s), high-intensity LEDs or a combination of these lights. Do not stare directly into these lights. Momentary blindness and/or eye damage could result.
- Use only soap and water to clean the outer lens. Use of other chemicals could result in premature lens cracking (crazing) and discoloration. Lenses in this condition have significantly reduced effectiveness and should be replaced immediately. Inspect and operate this product regularly to confirm its proper operation and mounting condition. Do not use a pressure washer to clean this product.
- It is recommended that these instructions be stored in a safe place and referred to when performing maintenance and/or reinstallation of this product.
- FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE SAFETY PRECAUTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS COULD RESULT IN DAMAGE TO THE PRODUCT OR VEHICLE AND/OR SERIOUS INJURY TO YOU AND YOUR PASSENGERS!
Connecting the Power Cable:

**Important**! The lightbar should be located a minimum of 16" from any radio antennas!

**Slide Bolt Mounting:**

1. Insert the three supplied 1/2 - 13 X 2-3/4 HEX HD BOLTS into the slide bolt brackets and twist the brackets into the bottom of the lightbar extrusion (Fig. 1).
2. With the slide bolt brackets in their mounting position, secure them to the lightbar with the supplied set screws.
3. Position the lightbar onto the vehicle and mark the location of the three mounting bolts off onto the mounting surface.
4. Remove the lightbar and drill the three mounting holes you marked off using a 1/2" drill bit.

**Connecting the Power Cable:**

**Warning!** All customer supplied wires that connect to the positive terminal of the battery must be sized to supply at least 125% of the maximum operating current and **FUSED** at the battery to carry that load. **Do not use circuit breakers with this product!**

1. Follow the factory wiring harness through the firewall. It may be necessary to drill a hole in the firewall. If so, be absolutely sure that there are no components that could be damaged by drilling. After the hole has been drilled, insert a grommet to protect the cable.
2. Route the cable along the factory wiring harness towards the battery. Install a 30 amp fuse block (customer supplied) on the end of the RED wire in the power cable. **Note:** Remove the fuse from the fuse block before connecting any wires to the battery.
3. Connect the BLACK wire to Chassis Ground.

**Troubleshooting:**

If your lightbar is not functioning properly, check for the following:

- The positive wire (RED) is properly connected to the battery, by way of the user supplied fuse block.
- A working fuse of the correct amperage is installed in the fuse block (See illustration above, for the specific fuse rating for your lightbar).
- The ground wire (BLACK) is properly connected to the factory ground. Be sure that the wire is fully grounded to this location.
- The two communication wires (GREEN and GREY) are properly connected to their communication designations.

**Connecting the Communication Cable:**

Splice the GREEN and GREY wires from the lightbar to the GREEN and GREY wires from the Gateway.

**Slide Bolt Mounting:**

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- With the slide bolt brackets in their mounting position, secure them to the lightbar with the supplied set screws.
- Position the lightbar onto the vehicle and mark the location of the three mounting bolts off onto the mounting surface.
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