

# Glossary

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**Acrylic** - A glassy thermoplastic polymerized from acrylonitrile which can be cast and molded, which is resistant to damage from many cleaning solvents.

**Aftermarket** - A term that refers to the market place for our replacement or retro-fit business. The customer in this market is replacing an existing lamp or accessory on his vehicle.

**Bracket** - A rigid mounting device that allows a lamp to be mounted on the surface of the vehicle body. Some brackets are designed to be used alone or with a grommet.

**Bulb Replaceable** - Opposite of sealed. The lens is removable on a lamp of this type. When the bulb fails, the lamp may be repaired by replacing the bulb.

**Cab Marker** - A lamp similar in function to the marker clearance lamp, but these are always mounted on the roof of the truck or tractor cab. Technically, these are called a front identification or ID lamp.

**Custom Cut** - A term that refers to the harnesses that must be cut and terminated to the customer's specifications.

**DOT** - United States Department of Transportation, was created to serve the United States by ensuring a fast, safe, efficient, accessible and convenient

transportation system that meets our vital national interests and enhances the quality of life of the American people, today and into the future.

**Grommet** - A rubber like device used to mount a lamp into a hole in a vehicle body or a mounting bracket. The grommet may allow a lamp to be mounted “flush” into the body and thereby protects the lamp from physical damage. A grommet also gives the lamp additional protection against shock and vibration.

**Harness** - Also a wiring device. A harness can include MULTIPLE plug connectors and be used to control different types of lamps. Harnesses tend to be heavy duty, jacketed cable as opposed to light duty, unprotected wire as in “plugs.”

**HID** - High Intensity Discharge, produces light by an electric arc between two closely spaced electrodes in a quartz glass bulb.

**HIR** - Halogen Infra Red, is a halogen lamp with an elliptical bulb envelope. The exterior of the bulb is coated with several layers of material, which are transparent to visible light but reflect infrared back to the filament. The effect is a brighter light for a given current.

**ID Codes** - ID Codes are the classifications given to various lighting applications in order to establish minimum requirements set forth by the SAE J759 regulations.

**Junction Box** - An accessory used with harness systems. All harnesses in a system are connected to this box. Signals from the control devices (switches on brake pedals, turn signal switches, etc.) are received in the accessory and are re-routed to the appropriate lamps via the harnesses.

**Kit** - A Truck-Lite term used to describe the combining of related products. For example, a lamp, a grommet, and a plug can be put together and sold as a unit or "Kit." A "Kit" can also be an entire "vehicle set", including all lamps, harnesses, and accessories needed to equip a vehicle.

**LED** - Light Emitting Diode. A "solid state" electronic device that converts electrical energy directly to light energy. When an electrical current is applied to the LED "chip," a colored light is emitted. The color depends on the chemical composition of the chip. Very little heat is produced with this process. Because the "diode" is cast into a solid block of epoxy, the LED is immune to vibrations and shock and can last up to 100,000 hours of operation.

**Marker Clearance** - Also called marker lamp. A small lamp used to mark the edges or corners of the trailer or truck body. These are normally amber in the front and middle of the vehicle, and red at the rear. Other colors are available for "auxiliary" use, but only red or amber (yellow) are legal for the use as marker clearance lamps in the U.S.

**Module** - A term used to describe a complete rear lighting assembly. The module usually consists of a housing (metal or plastic) with one or more tail lamps, and includes a harness or wiring assembly. The module may also include a marker lamp, reflector, or back-up lamps.

**Multi-Function Lamp** - A specialized Stop/Turn/Tail lamp. This type of lamp usually has a larger housing and can include side marker, license plate illumination, or reflectors, in addition to the basic rear lighting function.

**NHTSA** - The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration creates values and regulations which underpin the assurance of safe, secure, efficient automotive travel.

**Ohm's Law** - Ohm's Law describes mathematically how voltage, current and resistance in a circuit are related through the formula:  $V = I \times R$ , where  $V$  is equal to Potential in Volts,  $I$  is equal to current in amps and  $R$  is equal to Resistance in Ohms.

**Plug Together Harness** - The "brand name" for Truck-Lite's 88 series harness system and accessories. It features a system that eliminates the need for any type of distribution module. All components simply plug together ensuring a solid electrical contact throughout.

**Plug/Pigtail** - The basic wiring accessory. Usually a 1, 2, 3, or 4 wire design with termination designed to mate with a socket or pin connection area on the lamp.

**Polycarbonate** - Any of a family of thermoplastics characterized by high-impact strength, light weight, and flexibility, and used as a shatter-resistant substitute for glass.

**Reflector** - A non-powered (non-electrical) device designed to reflect light. A reflector does not emit light by itself, but will return light that is aimed at it. Reflective tape or reflectors are required by law to supplement lighting systems.

**Sealed Lamp** - Any lighting device that has its bulb permanently sealed inside the lens and housing assembly. When this lamp fails, the entire unit must be replaced, unlike a bulb replaceable lamp.

**Shock Mounted** - A system used to suspend and insulate the bulb from vibration and shock (impact).

**Stop/Turn Lamp** - A rear lamp that is brighter than a tail lamp used to indicate that the vehicle is turning or stopping. The “major” filament of the bulb is used to perform this function. Sometimes referred to as a “SC” or single contact lamp.

**Stop/Turn/Tail Lamp** - A rear lamp that contains one or more bulbs with both major and minor filament functions. This one lamp performs the duties of both the Stop/Turn lamp and Tail lamp. Sometimes referred to as a “DC” or double contact lamp.

**Super System** - The “brand name” for Truck-Lite’s 50 Series Harnesses and accessories. This system features both the “custom cut” and customer buildable harnesses. “Compression fittings” are used to seal outlets where harnesses enter the junction box.

**Tail Lamp** - This term is used in general to describe the rear lighting of the vehicle. Specifically, the tail lamp function is performed by the “minor filament” of the bulb. This red light remains “on” as long as the headlamps/parking lamps are in use. This light is not as bright as a turn or stop lamp.