



Proposal for amendments to Regulation No. 121 (Identification of controls)

The text reproduced below was prepared by the experts from the International Organization of Motor Vehicle Manufacturers (OICA) to extend to the symbols Nos. 25 and 28 the logics of the ISO colour coding and its hierarchy of alerts to the danger. The modifications to the current text of the Regulation are marked in bold or strikethrough characters.

I. Proposal

Table 1, amend to read:

"

No.	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4	Column 5
	Item	Symbol <u>2/</u>	Function	Illumination	Colour
...
25.	Brake system malfunction	 <u>8/</u> 18/	Tell-tale	Yes	See Regulations Nos. 13-H and 13 as appropriate
...
28.	Parking brake applied	 <u>2/</u> 18/	Tell-tale	Yes	Red See Regulations Nos. 13-H and 13 as appropriate
...

...

18/ Symbol may be shown in other colours than those specified in column 5 in order to convey different meanings according to the general colour coding as proposed in paragraph 5 of ISO 2575-2004"

II. Justification

1. The multiplication of the new features related to the braking systems (e.g. electric parking brakes, automatic parking brakes, etc.) makes it necessary to multiply the alerts to the driver. However, the space available in the dashboard prevents the manufacturers to add one tell-tale for each new on-board function. In addition, the multiplication of alerts could confuse the driver.
2. In this view, permitting the same tell-tale to indicate different levels of danger for each function would cause some economy of space and safety improvement.
3. OICA with the present proposal requests to extend to symbols Nos. 25 and 28 the logics of the ISO colour coding and its hierarchy of alerts to the danger. OICA has no intention to deviate from the ISO colour-coding, rather to remain on the safe side of the provisions by respecting the code of colours already well assimilated by the vehicle users.
4. For best convenience, the current text of paragraph 5. of ISO standard 2575 can be found below:

"5. Colour

- 5.1. When used on optical indicators or tell-tales, the following colours have the meanings indicated:

Red: danger to persons or very serious damage to equipment, immediate or imminent;

Yellow or amber: caution, outside normal operating limits, vehicle system malfunction, damage to vehicle likely, or other condition which can produce hazard in the longer term;

Green: safe, normal operating condition (where blue or yellow is not required).

A given symbol may be shown in more than one of these colours in order to convey the indicated meanings.

- 5.2. Certain colours are used for specific tell-tales (refer to "symbol description/application" column in the annexes):

– blue: e.g. high beam, main beam;

– green: e.g. turn signals;

– yellow/amber: e.g. failure of anti-lock brake system;

– red: e.g. hazard warning.

- 5.3. If colour is used on symbols for heating and/or cooling systems, the colour red shall be used to indicate hot, and the colour blue shall be used to indicate cold.

- 5.4. The colour white may be used where none of the above conditions applies.

- 5.5. A given symbol may be shown in more than one of the colours specified in para. 5.1. in order to convey a change in the operating condition."

5. As a general rule in braking Regulations, red warnings indicate severe errors implying danger to persons. For less severe errors which also require caution from the driver, the yellow warning signal is given.

6. The mandatory red colour, when the parking brake is applied, conforms to the provisions of the braking regulations (Regulation No. 13-H, paragraph 5.2.3. and Regulation No. 13, paragraph 5.2.1.26.2.3.). For less severe errors like a break in the wiring of the parking braking system (see Regulation No. 13-H, paragraph 5.2.19.2.1.) a yellow warning signal is given:

"5.2.19.2.1. A break in the wiring within the electrical transmission, or an electrical failure in the control of the parking braking system shall be signalled to the driver by the yellow warning signal specified in paragraph 5.2.21.1.2."

"5.2.21.1.2. Where applicable, a yellow warning signal indicating an electrically detected defect within the vehicle braking equipment, which is not indicated by the red warning signal described in paragraph 5.2.21.1.1. above."
