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American Products To Pay Civil Penalty For Sale of Clear Tail Lamps

The U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) announced that American Products Company (APC) has agreed to pay a \$650,000 civil penalty as a result of its manufacture, certification, and sale of replacement lamps that did not comply with federal safety standards.

Over the past several years, APC sold various models of noncomplying replacement tail lamps, commonly sold as "clear" tail lamps or "Eurotail" lamps. Some of the non-complying models replaced red lamps and reflectors with clear ones. Others were missing side marker lamps or reflectors.

APC also sold other noncompliant replacement lighting equipment, including clear corner and bumper lenses and high-intensity discharge (HID) conversion kits. The nonconforming equipment was sold by a variety of retailers. The lamps and lenses have been the subject of four recalls covering thousands of parts.

The parts and model numbers associated with these safety recalls are listed on NHTSA's web site, <http://www.nhtsa.gov/> under the recall numbers 99E-039, 00E-078, 01E-035 and 03E-014