



## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### Stoptix Automatic Brake Lamps – 1157, 1156

Part Numbers ABL-1157-1, ABL-1157-2,  
ABL-1157-1R, ABL-1157-2R, ABL-1156-2

#### **What happens when I apply the brakes?**

Power goes from the vehicle to the Stoptix lamp to illuminate it as soon as you press your brake pedal. The rest of the time the lamp is measuring g-force [deceleration rate] and determining if it should self-illuminate. It also charges when the tail lights are on.

#### **How long will it hold a charge when my vehicle is parked?**

The lamp will continue to run until the on-board energy voltage drops below a pre-programmed value. At that time the unit will turn off. The lamp will recharge in approximately 3 seconds the next time the brakes are applied.

#### **How soon after I start my vehicle does the lamp start working?**

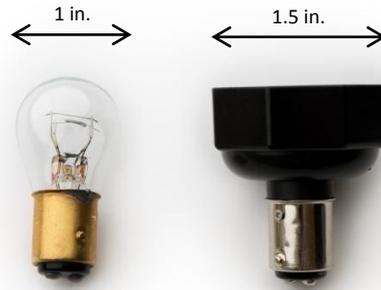
The tail light, brake light, and turn signal works whenever those signals come from the vehicle. This is always true, even if the lamp's on-board energy is empty.

#### **Will it work in older vehicles?**

Stoptix will work at voltages between 6 VDC and 26 VDC. It will work in an older vehicle with a 6 Volt system.

#### **Will it fit my vehicle?**

The Stoptix lamp is designed to fit most tail/brake/turn lamp sockets that use an 1154 (6-Volt) or 1157 bulb (12-Volt) bulb. These are the generic part numbers and your vehicle may have manufacturer-specific part numbers that will cross-reference to be the same. We designed the housing to be shallow enough to install without hitting the reflector in your vehicle but still have a large effective area for higher visibility. If your bulb is an 1157 (12 Volt) or an 1154 (6 Volt) type and not rear-loading then the Stoptix lamp should fit. Our products do not replace rear-loading 1157 and 1156 lamps because our lamp diameter exceeds one inch which is the diameter of the opening in the light housing.



CAN Bus: Stoptix lamps have been tested in the Harley-Davidson HDLAN (CAN Bus) system confirming that the bike can "learn" the Stoptix lamp in 5 minutes with the hazard lights on, even with incandescent lamps installed in the front of the bike.

You also have the option to turn your 1156 tail lights into automatic brake lights. The on-board energy is charged when the tail lights are on. The automatic brake light function is the same as in our 1157 lamp.

### **How do I confirm that it fits my vehicle prior to purchasing?**

If your light is not rear-loading, you can request a fitment tool to be mailed to you from MechOptix. The soft Styrene has the same dimensions as the cross-section of our lamp. This will show if our lamp can install your vehicle's socket and also not collide with the reflector surface in your vehicle's light housing.



### **Will it accommodate any socket orientation?**

No, the Stoptix lamp requires a horizontal socket which is parallel with level ground. Note that some trailer lights have a socket pointing upward and that our Stoptix light will not work in these few exceptions. Please see an example of lamp sockets not parallel to the road in the photo of the magnetic towing lights below.



### **Does it require a load resistor to work with my turn signals?**

We all know the trouble that an LED conversion can pose when it comes to getting the turn signals to work properly. You either need all incandescent with a thermal flasher, all LED with a digital flasher, or an LED with the load resistor built-in. Our Stoptix lamps actually pull the same current as the incandescent bulb. We certainly do not need all this power to turn on the LED but we do use the excess power to recharge our on-board energy storage (capacitors).

### **How long does the battery last?**

The power source is not a battery but a capacitor instead which allows for rapid charging. The on-board energy lasts 2 hours between recharges and still has enough energy to illuminate the LED. We call this the freeway case in which you may have travelled for an extended time without applying the brakes. Recharging the energy storage occurs in just under 3 seconds and occurs automatically every time you apply the brakes. It will also recharge using the tail/running lamp power.

### **How is the RACING version different?**

The racing version of the lamp has a lower g-force threshold than our standard lamp, making it more sensitive than our standard lamp. We label them as our racing version because we track tested and tuned our g-force threshold with the help of a race car driver who worked with us for many hours on the track.

### **Why offer the standard and racing versions if every lamp is programmable?**

We recommend the standard lamp for light duty passenger vehicles and heavy duty trucks. We recommend the racing version for lightweight vehicles such as motorcycles. You can begin using the lamps right out of the package without programming. We offer the programmable feature in every lamp so you can tune the g-force setting if desired and also be able to adjust it if you move the lamps from one vehicle to another.

### **Why is the lens not red?**

We use an optical diffuser instead of a lens. This not only spreads the light to 140 degrees output but it also homogenizes the light so it appears to be uniformly lit across the entire face of the light. Our light is opaque off-white when off and uniformly red when on. Emitting white light is wasteful when only red light gets through the vehicle's red lens. Emitting only red light means no energy is wasted and our lamp can operate for a longer time.

### **Will the Stoptix lamp illuminate the license plate?**

License plate illumination is not presently available in the Stoptix 1157 lamp.

### **What does the warranty cover?**

Your purchase comes with a Full One Year Warranty.

MechOptix, Inc. ("MechOptix") warrants this hardware product against defects in materials and workmanship for a period of ONE (1) YEAR from the date of original retail purchase.

### **Do you ship internationally?**

Yes. Stoptix lamps ship worldwide. Stoptix is designed to meet or exceed stop lamp standards worldwide.



MechOptix Inc.  
Huntsville, AL, U.S.A.  
(256) 542-1711  
[info@MechOptix.com](mailto:info@MechOptix.com)  
[www.AutoBrakeLight.com](http://www.AutoBrakeLight.com)