# USER GUIDE

Mini Remote Control Trailer Light Tester MODEL: MRC2022

Thank you for purchasing this product. Before use, please print and read this user guide carefully, and keep it safe for future reference.

## How To Safely Operate Tester

The Mini Remote Control Trailer Light Tester is portable for use, whether you are at your workshop or on-site, just keep the battery charged.

Use the main switch (rocker switch on the tester) to power on/off the tester. When switching the rocker switch on, the twelve-volt battery of tester and its testing circuit is then switched on and will supply power. Remember to insert all fuses before switching on the tester.

The tester battery can be re-charged when voltage goes below 11.40 volts and is in a fully charged state when the voltage is above 12.80 volts. The voltmeter of the tester can monitor the voltage. For tester protection, we recommend 7.5-ampere fuses.

Tester fuse will burn through when overloading or a short occurs. Overloading happens when current races near the rated current of fuse in a very short time until the fuse overheats and burns through. Switching on all light circuits of tester will induce overloading. A short happens when opposite polarities come into contact with each other. The ampere-meter reading on the tester will increase rapidly just before the fuse blows when in a short state.



When there is a short somewhere, switch off tester and find the origin of the short and fix it, then continue testing.

## CAUTION:

- The tester can handle a maximum load of 30 amperes. Do not insert fuses rated more than 10 amperes, as the tester electrical components may get damaged
- Tester not waterproof; keep away from water, oil, petrol and other liquids



#### **Operating Instructions for charger:**

- 1. Plug the charger into a standard household AC outlet. The charging starts, and the indicator will light up GREEN.
- 2. The indicator will go RED if the battery needs charging.
- 3. When the battery is full, the charger will switch to trickle charge automatically. The charging indicator will go back to GREEN.
- 4. When you finish re-charging, unplug the unit from the AC outlet. Then disconnect the charger plug/jack from the tester.
- 5. NEVER DISCONNECT THE BATTERY CONNECTOR BY PULLING ON THE WIRES.
- 6. The charger will automatically reset when unplugging it from the AC outlet or disconnecting the battery from the charger. Charging will repeat immediately following the above steps.
- 7. Charging circuit protection (fuse holder) is located next to the charging jack on the front side of the tester. Do not insert fuses rated more than ten ampere

#### CAUTION:

This charger can only charge 12V 1-70AH lead-acid batteries. Charging other types of batteries may cause personal injury and damage to the charger.

Do not use tester while the battery is charging



# LED'S on the tester:

No. 1	Left-hand indicator
No.2	Parking Brakes / ABS / Auxiliary. Read more on auxiliary test.
No.3	Indicates that negative polarity (-) is available from tester.
No.4	Right-hand indicator
No.5	Right-hand tail
No.6	Stoplights
No.7	Left-hand tail



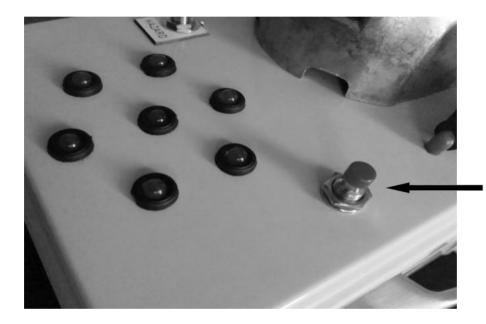
#### Reset Button for Zero / No Load

• Due to electrical noise inside the tester, it is sometimes necessary to use the Zero Load Reset Push Button. Pressing this button will ensure that the tester is in a zero load state in order to clear current and electrical energy data on the digital meter.

The procedure to follow:

To clear data on the digital meter, press and hold the Reset Push Button while following the standard procedure to clear data as explained in the Drok user manual. Once all the data is clear, simply let go of the button. You can then afterwards clear the data the normal way.

• The Reset Push Button can also be used to put the tester into standby mode without switching the main power switch.



Reset Push Button

#### Testing tow socket, wiring circuit and lights of trailer or caravan



Please clean and remove dirt from the trailer or caravan tow plug before plugging into the tester. When plugged in, it sometimes helps wiggle the plug to loosen sticky terminals, ensuring better contact.

- Insert the trailer or caravan tow plug into the tow socket of tester. The tester will supply permanent negative polarity to the trailer or caravan that you are testing. The negative polarity LED indicator on the tester will show that.
- After inserting the plug, power on tester and start testing

#### - EARTH / GROUND WIRE TEST -

#### On trailers and caravans fitted with standard light globes:

With no earth/ground wire connected on the trailer or caravan - On the tester, switching on any of the toggle switches will let the LED's (except the auxiliary LED) light up. The lights on the trailer or caravan will not work or light up very dimly if there is a poor connection. Fix the earth/ground circuit before continuing.

With the earth/ground wire swapped between light circuits on trailer or caravan - On the tester, switching on any of the toggle switches will light up two or more LED's, indicating an earth/ground fault. The lights on the trailer or caravan will also work incorrectly. Fix the earth/ground circuit before continuing.

With the earth/ground wire of the trailer or caravan connected to the auxiliary circuit - On the tester, without switching on any of the toggle switches, the auxiliary LED will light up dimly green with the other LED's lighting up brightly. The lights on the trailer or caravan will not work when switching on the toggle switches. Fix the earth/ground circuit before continuing.

#### On trailers and caravans fitted with LED lights:

With no earth/ground wire connected on the trailer or caravan - On the tester, switching on any of the toggle switches will make none of the LED's light up, and no lights will work on trailer or caravan. Fix the earth/ground circuit before continuing.

With the earth/ground wire swapped between light circuits on trailer or caravan - On the tester, switching on any of the toggle switches, two or more LED's will light up, indicating an earth/ground fault. The lights on the trailer or caravan will not work. Fix the earth/ground circuit before continuing.

With the earth/ground wire of the trailer or caravan connected to the auxiliary circuit - On the tester, the auxiliary LED will light up red when switching on any of the toggle switches. The lights on the trailer or caravan will not work. Fix the earth/ground circuit before continuing.

#### - STOPLIGHT TEST -

- Press the remote stoplight (ST) button
- The stop LED on tester must light up, and both left and right-hand stoplights of trailer/caravan must work
- If stoplights work, then the circuit is OK
- Switch off and continue to next test

If the circuit fails the test, then check for the following faults -

- Trailer/caravan tow plug and lights not wired according to standard
- Blown globes
- Globes wrongly fitted (check all globes)
- Worn or dirty contact points
- Dead/broken positive wire (red) from trailer/caravan tow plug to stop lights
- Earth/ground wire (white) from trailer/caravan tow plug to lights is dead/broken or not making full contact at globe holder/s negative side

## - R/H TAIL LIGHT TEST -

- Press the remote tail light (RT) button
- The right-hand tail LED on the tester must light up, and the right-hand tail light on the trailer/caravan must light up
- If right-hand tail light and number plate light works, then the circuit is OK
- Switch off and continue to next test

If the circuit fails the test, then check for the following faults -

- Trailer/caravan tow plug and lights not wired according to standard
- Blown globes
- Globes wrongly fitted (check all globes)
- Worn or dirty contact points
- Dead/broken positive wire (brown) from trailer/caravan tow plug to tail light
- Earth/ground wire (white) from trailer/caravan tow plug to light is dead/broken or not making full contact at globe holder/s negative side

## - L /H TAIL LIGHT TEST -

- Press the remote tail light (LT) button
- The left-hand tail LED on the tester must light up, and the left-hand tail light on the trailer/caravan must light up
- If left-hand tail light and number plate works, then the circuit is OK
- Switch off and continue to next test

If the circuit fails the test, then check for the following faults -

- Trailer/caravan tow plug and lights not wired according to standard
- Blown globes
- Globes wrongly fitted (check all globes)
- Worn or dirty contact points
- Dead/broken positive wire (black) from trailer/caravan tow plug to tail light
- Earth/ground wire (white) from trailer/caravan tow plug to light is dead/broken or not making full contact at globe holder/s negative side

## - R /H INDICATOR LIGHT TEST -

- Press the remote right-hand indicator (RI) button
- The right-hand indicator LED on the tester must light up or flash, as well as the right-hand indicator light on the trailer/caravan must light up or flash
- If the right-hand indicator works then the circuit is OK
- Switch off and continue to next test

If the circuit fails the test, then check for the following faults -

- Trailer/caravan tow plug and lights not wired according to standard
- Blown globes
- Globes wrongly fitted (check all globes)
- Worn or dirty contact points
- Dead/broken positive wire (green) from trailer/caravan tow plug to indicator light
- Earth/ground wire (white) from trailer/caravan tow plug to light is dead/broken or not making full contact at globe holder/s negative side

#### - L /H INDICATOR LIGHT TEST -

- Press the remote left-hand indicator (LI) button
- The left-hand indicator LED on the tester must light up or flash, as well as the left-hand indicator light on the trailer/caravan must light up or flash
- If the left-hand indicator works then the circuit is OK
- Switch off and continue to next test

If the circuit fails the test, then check for the following faults -

- Trailer/caravan tow plug and lights not wired according to standard
- Blown globes
- Globes wrongly fitted (check all globes)
- Worn or dirty contact points
- Dead/broken positive wire (yellow) from trailer/caravan tow plug to indicator light
- Earth/ground wire (white) from trailer/caravan tow plug to light is dead/broken or not making full contact at globe holder/s negative side

#### - SWITCH (HAZARD) TO SELECT BETWEEN FLASHING OR NON-FLASHING INDICATORS -

### For flashing indicators -

Switch ON the TOGGLE switch, press the remote (LI) and (RI) buttons which will start the indicator lights to flash.

#### For non-flashing indicators -

If you want non-flashing indicators lights, simply flip the TOGGLE switch to the DOWN side.

#### **Special Note:**

When carrying out short circuit test on the trailer indicator lights, it is best to have non-flashing indicators, because with flashing indicators it will give fluctuating ampere readings which will make it difficult to determine the actual reading value.

## - AUXILIARY CONNECTION TEST -

If the auxiliary wire receives any power, the LED (auxiliary) on the tester will either go red for a positive power source or green for a negative power source. By standard, this wire is open with nothing connected to it, and the LED should not illuminate. If it does, check for what reason.

The remote **(BA)** button can also control this circuit. This added option is for trailers or caravans that have an electronic parking brake, an automatic brake system, fog lights, reversing lights, or a fridge installed and connected to this wire.

- Press the remote (**BA**) button
- The auxiliary LED on the tester must light up, as well as the recipient circuit must receive power on the trailer/caravan
- If the circuit works then the circuit is OK
- Switch off and continue to next test

If the circuit fails the test, then check for the following faults -

- Trailer/caravan tow plug not wired according to standard
- Worn or dirty contact points
- Dead/broken wire (blue) from trailer/caravan tow plug to circuit
- Earth/ground wire (white) from trailer/caravan tow plug to circuit is dead/broken or not making full contact

## - SHORT CIRCUIT TEST -

Depending on the electrical cable length and size, the cable's resistance also increases, and the tester fuse (7.5 A) may not always blow immediately or at all because the electrons have to travel further through the cable. The fastest and only way to check for shorts without doing anything on the trailer or caravan is by using this tester and its built-in ampere-meter.

#### Test 1:

In this test, we are only going to test the stoplights circuit. The stoplights circuit consists of two light globes connected in parallel, with power ratings of 12v/21w each. The electrical cable used is 8 meters long, seven core, with wires of a cross-sectional area of  $0.75mm^2$  each. The electrical cable wires are in excellent condition, with low resistance.

To calculate the total load, add all the light globes used in the circuit. Use this number and compare it with what the ampere-meter shows. The ampere-meter reading value must be as close as possible to the calculated load number for the circuit to pass the short circuit test.

As mentioned above, an electrical cable can have a significant adverse effect on a trailer or caravan light circuit if it's not right. Luckily, when carrying out a short circuit test, it will also determine if the electrical cable needs replacing.

**Take note:** Most electrical cables, five to ten percent (5-10%) volt drop, are allowed; if more than that, the resistance is too high for use. Selecting the right electrical cable size and length are important for lights to work perfectly and efficiently.

Type of test Testing Circuit information Electrical cable information	short circuit test trailer stoplights circuit 2 x standard globes 12v/21w 8 meter, seven core with wires of 0.75mm <sup>2</sup> each- Volt drop is in range with low resistance. The cable is good.
<b>Circuit total load calculation</b> (using ohm's law)	$P= V \times I$ $(P)21 = (V)12 \times I$ $I = 1.75 \text{ A} \times 2 \text{ (light globes)}$ $= 3.5 \text{ A}$ The value which the ampere-meter must show more or less, for the circuit to pass the test.
Ammeter reading value	3.49 A (0.01 Ampere difference)
TEST PASSED!	<b>Result:</b> The amp-meter reading value is in range and very close to 3.5 Amperes. No short circuit was detected.

## Test 2:

In this test, we are only going to test the stoplights circuit. The stoplights circuit consists of two light globes connected in parallel, with power ratings of 12v/21w each. The electrical cable used is 50 meters long, seven core, with wires of a cross-sectional area of  $0.75mm^2$  each. The electrical cable wires are in bad condition, with high resistance.

To calculate the total load, use the same method as Test 1.

Type of test Testing Circuit information Electrical cable information	short circuit test trailer stoplights circuit 2 x standard globes 12v/21w 50 meter, seven core with wires of 0.75mm <sup>2</sup> each- Volt drop is above 10% with high resistance. The cable is not good.
<b>Circuit total load calculation</b> (using ohm's law)	P= V x I (P)21 =(V)12 x I I = 1.75 A x 2 (light globes) = $3.5 A$ The value which the ampere-meter must show more or less, for the circuit to pass the test.
Ammeter reading value	2.50 A (1.00 Ampere difference)
TEST FAILED!	<b>Result:</b> The amp-meter reading value is not in range, over one- ampere difference on the lower-level side. The cable is the cause of the current to drop in the circuit. No short circuit was detected.

## Test 3:

In this test, we are only going to test the stoplights circuit. The stoplights circuit consists of two light globes connected in parallel, with power ratings of 12v/21w each. The electrical cable used is 50 meters long, seven core, with wires of a cross-sectional area of  $0.75mm^2$  each. The electrical cable wires are in bad condition, with high resistance.

To calculate the total load, use the same method as Test 1or 2.

Type of test Testing Circuit information Electrical cable information	short circuit test trailer stoplights circuit 2 x standard globes 12v/21w 50 meter, seven core with wires of 0.75mm <sup>2</sup> each- Volt drop is above 10% with high resistance. The cable is not good.
<b>Circuit total load calculation</b> (using ohm's law)	$P= V \times I$ $(P)21 = (V)12 \times I$ $I = 1.75 \text{ A } \times 2 \text{ (light globes)}$ $= 3.5 \text{ A}$ The value which the ampere-meter must show more or less, for the circuit to pass the test.
Ammeter reading value	5.30 A (1.80 Ampere difference)
TEST FAILED!	<b>Result:</b> The amp-meter reading value is not in range, nearly two-ampere difference in the upper-level side. A short circuit was detected.

## Test 4:

In this test, we are only going to test the stoplights circuit. The stoplights circuit consists of two light globes connected in parallel, with power ratings of 12v/21w each. The electrical cable used is 8 meters long, seven core, with wires of a cross-sectional area of  $0.75mm^2$  each. The electrical cable wires are in excellent condition, with low resistance.

To calculate the total load, use the same method as Test 1, 2, or 3.

Type of test Testing Circuit information Electrical cable information	short circuit test trailer stoplights circuit 2 x standard globes 12v/21w 8 meter, seven core with wires of 0.75mm <sup>2</sup> each- Volt drop is in range with low resistance. The cable is good.
<b>Circuit total load calculation</b> (using ohm's law)	$P= V \times I$ $(P)21 = (V)12 \times I$ $I = 1.75 \text{ A} \times 2 \text{ (light globes)}$ $= 3.5 \text{ A}$ The value which the ampere-meter must show more or less, for the circuit to pass the test.
Ammeter reading value	+10 A (tester fuse blew)
TEST FAILED!	<b>Result:</b> The amp-meter reading value is not in range. The fuse on the tester blew as the current increased above the rated fuse of 7.5 amperes. A short circuit was detected.

List of common short circuits on trailer or caravans:

- Faulty globes or LED's
- Poor connections on globe holder/s
- Damaged insulation on wires
- Wire connections not correctly insulated
- Burned wires inside harness
- Bad connections made inside tow plug
- Wires not wired according to SABS standard
- Incorrect cable size used

