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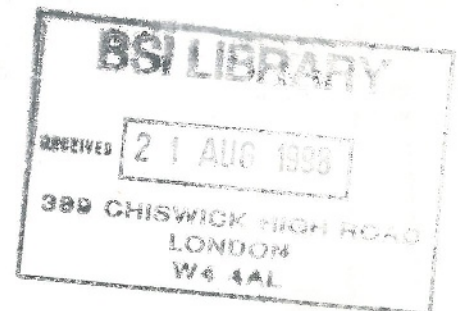
WITHDRAWN

Safety signs and colours

Part 1. Specification for colour and design

Signalisation et code couleurs en matière de sécurité
Partie 1. Spécification pour la couleur et la conception

Sicherheitszeichen und -farben
Teil 1. Spezifikation für Farben und Konstruktion



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Foreword

Over many years, widely different codes and systems of safety signs have been developed.

This standard specifies a system for giving health or safety information which keeps the use of words to a minimum. The need for such a system has arisen due to the increase in international trade and travel and the development of work forces which do not share a common language.

Attention is drawn to the fact that education and training is an essential part of any system for giving health or safety information.

BS 5378 was originally published in 1976 and was based upon the draft international standard ISO/DIS 3864 issued by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Since publication of that draft, the EEC has issued a Directive (77/576/EEC) 'Council Directive of 25 July 1977 on the Approximation of the Laws, Regulations and Administrative Provisions of the Member States relating to the provision of safety signs at places of work'.

The Directive is based upon the ISO work.

This revision of BS 5378 has been prepared under the direction of the Personal Safety Equipment Standards Committee and consists of two Parts which may be purchased separately. BS 5378 : 1976 is now withdrawn.

The international standard, ISO 3864, has not yet been published, but the latest draft, ISO/DIS 3864.3, covers the

same subject matter as Parts 1 and 2 of this standard, but is not identical. Attention is drawn in Part 2 to the main differences between the publications.

This Part of this standard is intended to bring the standard into line with the EEC Directive (77/576/EEC) and has been prepared in anticipation of the preparation of legislation in the UK to implement the EEC Directive.

Part 2 of the revision is being published simultaneously and gives guidance on the preferred sizes of signs and on the colorimetric and photometric properties of materials.

Further Parts of BS 5378 will be produced, if necessary, to cover any additional requirements.

This standard will also be used as a basis for other standards dealing with signs and symbols for specific purposes.

Attention is drawn, for example, to BS 5499 : Part 1 which gives more detailed requirements for signs displayed to give information concerning means of escape in case of fire, and fire precautions. In addition, reference may also be made to BS 2560 and to BS 4218.

Until international agreement is reached on the symbols for fire exit, emergency exit and exit signs, they are not specifically included as examples in this standard. In the meantime, however, the principles recommended in this standard for colour and shape should be adopted in relation to such symbols.

British Standard

Safety signs and colours

Part 1. Specification for colour and design

0. Introduction

The purpose of a system of safety colours and safety signs is to draw attention to objects and situations which affect or could affect health or safety.

The use of a system of safety colours and safety signs does not replace the need for appropriate accident prevention measures.

1. Scope

This Part of this British Standard specifies a system of safety colours and safety signs for giving information for use in the prevention of accidents, for warning of health hazards and for meeting certain emergencies. Examples of safety signs having particular meanings are included in appendix A.

2. References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this Part of this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

3. Definitions

For the purposes of this Part of this standard the following definitions apply.

3.1 safety colour. A colour to which a specific health or safety meaning or purpose is assigned.

3.2 contrasting colour. A colour that contrasts with the safety colour in order to make the latter more conspicuous.

3.3 symbol. A pictorial representation used on a safety sign.

3.4 safety sign. A sign that gives a message about health or safety by a combination of geometric form, safety colour and symbol or text (i.e. words, letters, numbers) or both.

3.5 prohibition sign. A safety sign that indicates that certain behaviour is prohibited.

3.6 warning sign. A safety sign that gives warning of a hazard.

3.7 mandatory sign. A safety sign that indicates that a specific course of action is to be taken.

3.8 safe condition sign. A safety sign that provides information about safe conditions.

3.9 supplementary sign. A sign with text only that may be used in conjunction with a safety sign in order to provide additional information.

4. Safety colours and contrasting colours

4.1 General meaning assigned to safety colours. The safety colours which shall be used and the meanings which shall be assigned to them are given in table 1 together with examples of the use of these safety colours and the contrasting colours which shall be used, if required.

4.2 Danger identification. If identification is required of places where there is a risk of collision, falling, stumbling, falling objects or where there are steps, holes in floors or similar hazards, the following combination of fluorescent orange-red* or safety colour yellow and in either case black shall be used. The proportion of fluorescent orange-red or yellow shall be at least 50 %.



This danger identification is used to identify the perimeter of the hazard. It may be used with or without a safety sign, but where a safety sign is appropriate to identify a particular hazard, or where the situation is covered by a sign set out in appendix A, the danger identification marking shall not be used as a substitute for the safety sign.

*This colour provides high conspicuity, especially in conditions of poor natural lighting.