

# ISO

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION

BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 508, Identification Colours for Pipes Conveying Fluids in Liquid or Gaseous Condition in Land Installations and on Board Ships, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 8, Identification Colours, the Secretariat of which is held by the Netherlands Normalization Institute (NEN). The question in 1956 and, together with ISO/TC 8, adopted a Draft ISO Recommendation in 1963.

In December 1965, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 638) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for comment. It was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the Council of the International Organization for Standardization in October 1966, to accept it as an ISO Recommendation.

## ISO RECOMMENDATION R 508 IDENTIFICATION COLOURS FOR PIPES CONVEYING FLUIDS IN LIQUID OR GASEOUS CONDITION IN LAND INSTALLATIONS AND ON BOARD SHIPS

Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
Turkey  
United Kingdom  
U.S.S.R.  
India  
Israel  
Italy  
Japan  
Korea, Rep. of  
Netherlands  
Belgium  
Canada  
Chile  
Colombia  
Czechoslovakia  
Denmark  
Finland  
France

1st EDITION  
October 1966

One Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft:  
Brazil

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in October 1966, to accept it as an ISO Recommendation.

## BRIEF HISTORY

The ISO Recommendation R 508, *Identification Colours for Pipes Conveying Fluids in Liquid or Gaseous Condition in Land Installations and on Board Ships*, was drawn up by Technical Committee ISO/TC 8, *Shipbuilding Details*, the Secretariat of which is held by the Netherlands Normalisatie-instituut (NNI) in collaboration with Technical Committee ISO/TC 5, *Pipes and Fittings*, the Secretariat of which is held by the Association Suisse de Normalisation (SNV).

Technical Committee ISO/TC 8 began work on this question in 1956 and, together with ISO/TC 5, adopted a Draft ISO Recommendation in 1962.

In December 1963, this Draft ISO Recommendation (No. 638) was circulated to all the ISO Member Bodies for enquiry. It was approved, subject to a few modifications of an editorial nature, by the following Member Bodies:

|                |                |                 |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Argentina      | Germany        | Republic        |
| Austria        | Greece         | of South Africa |
| Belgium        | India          | Spain           |
| Canada         | Israel         | Sweden          |
| Chile          | Italy          | Switzerland     |
| Colombia       | Japan          | Turkey          |
| Czechoslovakia | Korea, Rep. of | United Kingdom  |
| Denmark        | Netherlands    | U.S.S.R.        |
| Finland        | Norway         |                 |
| France         | Poland*        |                 |

One Member Body opposed the approval of the Draft:

Brazil

The Draft ISO Recommendation was then submitted by correspondence to the ISO Council, which decided, in October 1966, to accept it as an ISO RECOMMENDATION.

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\* for installations on board ships only.

## IDENTIFICATION COLOURS FOR PIPES CONVEYING FLUIDS IN LIQUID OR GASEOUS CONDITION IN LAND INSTALLATIONS AND ON BOARD SHIPS

### 1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this ISO Recommendation is to define the meaning and application of a limited number of colours which should be used for the identification of pipes conveying fluids in liquid or gaseous condition in land installations and on board ships.

### 2. SCOPE

This ISO Recommendation applies to land installations and to installations on board ships.

According to the importance of the installations and to the variety of fluids conveyed, the pipes should be identified by

- (a) *basic identification colours only*,  
for installations where the determination of merely the basic nature of the fluid is sufficient;
- (b) *basic identification colours and code indications*,  
for installations where the precise determination of the fluid is of great importance.

### 3. BASIC IDENTIFICATION COLOURS

#### 3.1 Basic identification colours and their meanings

|              |                                                               |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| Green        | — water in liquid state                                       |
| Silver-grey  | — steam                                                       |
| Brown        | — mineral, vegetable and animal oils; combustible liquids     |
| Yellow-ochre | — gases in either gaseous or liquefied condition (except air) |
| Violet       | — acids and alkalis                                           |
| Light blue   | — air                                                         |
| Black        | — other liquids                                               |

#### 3.2 Physical definition of the basic identification colours

The basic identification colours are defined by means of the CIE Standard Colorimetric System of colour specification, as accepted at the 8th session of the International Commission on Illumination, held at Cambridge (United Kingdom), in 1931.