BS ISO 3864-1:2011

BSI Standards Publication

Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs

Part 1: Design principles for safety signs and safety markings

This British Standard is the UK implementation of ISO 3864-1:2011. It supersedes BS 5499-1:2002 which is withdrawn.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PH/8/1, Graphical Symbols - Safety Signs.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs —

Part 1: Design principles for safety signs and safety markings

Symboles graphiques — Couleurs de sécurité et signaux de sécurité —

Partie 1: Principes de conception pour les signaux de sécurité et les marquages de sécurité

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

ISO 3864-1 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 145, *Graphical symbols*, Subcommittee SC 2, *Safety identification, signs, shapes, symbols and colours*.

This part of ISO 3864, together with ISO 3864-4, cancels and replaces ISO 3864-1:2002, which has been technically revised.

ISO 3864 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs*:

— *Part 1: Design principles for safety signs and safety markings*

— *Part 2: Design principles for product safety labels*

— *Part 3: Design principles for graphical symbols for use in safety signs*

— *Part 4: Colorimetric and photometric properties of safety sign materials*

Introduction

There is a need to standardize a system of giving safety information that relies as little as possible on the use of words to achieve understanding.

Continued growth in international trade, travel and mobility of labour requires a common method of communicating safety information.

Lack of standardization may lead to confusion and the risk of accidents.

The use of standardized safety signs does not replace proper work methods, instructions and accident prevention training or measures. Education is an essential part of any system that provides safety information.

NOTE Information on procedures, criteria of acceptability, safety sign templates and application of safety signs are given on the website: http://www.iso.org/tc145/sc2.

Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs —

Part 1:
Design principles for safety signs and safety markings

IMPORTANT — The colours represented in the electronic file of this part of ISO 3864 can be neither viewed on screen nor printed as true representations. Although the copies of this part of ISO 3864 printed by ISO have been produced to correspond (with an acceptable tolerance as judged by the naked eye) to the colour requirements, it is not intended that these printed copies be used for colour matching. Instead, consult ISO 3864-4 which provides colorimetric and photometric properties together with, as a guideline, references from colour order systems.

1 Scope

This part of ISO 3864 establishes the safety identification colours and design principles for safety signs and safety markings to be used in workplaces and in public areas for the purpose of accident prevention, fire protection, health hazard information and emergency evacuation. It also establishes the basic principles to be applied when developing standards containing safety signs.

This part of ISO 3864 is applicable to all locations where safety issues related to people need to be addressed. However, it is not applicable to the signalling used for guiding rail, road, river, maritime and air traffic and, generally speaking, to those sectors subject to a regulation which may differ.

NOTE Some countries' statutory regulations might differ in some respect from those given in this part of ISO 3864.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

ISO 3864-3, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Part 3: Design principles for graphical symbols for use in safety signs*

ISO 3864-4, *Graphical symbols — Safety colours and safety signs — Part 4: Colorimetric and photometric properties of safety sign materials*

ISO 17724:2003, *Graphical symbols — Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO 17724 and the following apply.

3.1
combination sign
sign that combines a safety sign and one or more associated supplementary signs on the same rectangular carrier