

Alexander County Government
29 CFR 1910

SPECIFICATIONS FOR ACCIDENT PREVENTION SIGNS AND TAGS
29 CFR 1910
WRITTEN PROGRAM INCLUDING TRAINING GUIDELINES

Written: 07-05-06
Approved: 07-20-06

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I. PURPOSE

- A. Alexander County's goal is to identify every situation that could possibly lead to an accident in a way that will prevent accidents from happening. This will be accomplished by complying with OSHA's 29 CFR 1910 regulation which tells employers what colors, shapes and wording shall be used to provide safety information and warnings. Employees of Alexander County will be able to recognize the different kinds of signs and tags and take action based on the messages they contain.

II. GENERAL SIGNS/TAG CRITERIA

- A. Tags shall contain a signal word and a major message.
- B. Signal word shall indicate specific hazardous condition or the instruction to be communicated.
- C. Signal word shall be either DANGER, CAUTION, BIOLOGICAL HAZARD, BIOHAZARD or the BIOLOGICAL HAZARD SYMBOL.
- D. Signal word shall be readable at a minimum distance of five feet (1.52 m).
- E. Signs/Tag's major message shall be presented in pictographs, written text or both.
- F. Signal word and major message shall be understandable to all employees who may be exposed to the identified hazard.
- G. Signs/Tags shall be removed only by the approval of management.

III. IDENTIFYING and DEFINING SIGNS and TAGS

A. DANGER Signs/Tags

- a. Danger signs identify something as very high risk and is indeed considered immediate danger. Shall be used when an immediate hazard presents a threat of death or serious injury to the employee.
- b. The word "DANGER" appears in white letters in a red oval on a black background.
- c. Additional wording may appear in black letters on a white background below the word DANGER on the sign. Examples of wording are: DANGER – LOOK OUT FOR TRUCKS, DANGER – SLIPPERY WHEN WET, DANGER – HAZARDOUS AREA Or DANGER – CORROSIVE LIQUIDS, Wear Protective Equipment.

B. CAUTION Signs/Tags

- a. Caution signs identify that there are potential hazards and proper precautions that should be taken against unsafe practices. Shall be used in minor hazardous

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situations where a non-immediate or potential hazard or unsafe practice presents a lesser threat of employee injury.

- b. The word "Caution" appears in black letters against a yellow background.
- c. Examples of wording for "CAUTION" signs are: CAUTION – NO CHEMICALS IN DRAINS, Use Chemical Waste Containers, CAUTION – WATCH YOUR STEP, or CAUTION – WEAR HARD HAT.

C. SAFETY INSTRUCTION Signs/Tags

- a. Safety instruction signs deliver a useful safety instruction, advice, or suggestion for entering or working in a particular area.
- b. The message for safety instructions appears in white letters against a green background.
- c. Further information that may appear below the safety instruction message are:
- d. SAFETY FIRST – Ear Protection Required in this Area, BE CAREFUL – WALK, DON'T RUN OR SAFETY FIRST – Keep this Area Safe and Clean.

D. BIOLOGICAL HAZARD Signs/Tags

- a. Biohazard signs means there is a risk of death, injury or illness.
- b. Biohazard signs shall be used to identify equipment, containers, rooms, etc. that are contaminated with hazardous biological agents.
- c. Biohazard signs will be displayed with fluorescent orange or orange/red letters with contrasting colors.
- d. Examples of messages explaining specific hazardous conditions or precautions are: HIGH VOLTAGE, DO NOT START THIS MACHINE, DO NOT USE, HANDS OFF: DO NOT OPERATE.
- e. Warning tags may be used when a situation has a hazard level between danger and caution.

E. EXIT Signs

- a. The word "Exit" on the sign must be at least six inches high.
- b. Exit sign must be distinctive in color and well lit and easy to see in an emergency
- c. Exit signs must exist in any location where there is an exit or a route to take to reach an exit.
- d. Any door, stairs or passage that could be mistaken for an exit shall have a "Not an Exit" sign displayed.

IV. EMPLOYEE TRAINING

- A.** Employees will be trained on how to recognize and define DANGER, CAUTION, BIOHAZARD, and SAFETY INSTRUCTION signs.
- B.** Department head, or designee, shall make employees aware of signs and tags and unsafe areas designated for specific department where employee will be working in.
- C.** Employees shall receive training when hired, if work environment changes, or at any

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time deemed necessary by management.

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