



Manitoba

## STANDARD PROCEDURE INSTRUCTION

Title		SPI
<b>Color Coding for Warning Signs &amp; Lights</b>		<b>34-41</b>
Department	Supersedes SPI Dated Draft	Effective Date
<b>Health, Safety and Environment</b>		March 25, 2010

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# Color Coding for Warning Signs & Lights

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## STANDARD PROCEDURE INSTRUCTION

### 1. **PURPOSE:**

To outline the standardization for color coding of warning indicators.

### 2. **CONTEXT:**

This document will detail a standardized color coding of warning signs and lights to be used when indicating potential hazards in the work place. This includes the use of “Overhead Markers” in all mines. “Overhead Markers” are to be color coded to match the signage hung from the back.

### 3. **SCOPE:**

This SPI applies to all surface plants and mines of the Vale, Manitoba Operations. Where this SPI contradicts the Highway’s Traffic Act, the Act will prevail.

### 4. **COLOR STANDARD:**

All signs must be solid background color with white lettering.

Exception: Yellow warning signs are to be solid yellow background with black lettering.



5. **WORDING STANDARD:**

“Danger”, “Warning”, and “Caution” signs must contain either a “Keyword” or “Legend” phrasing to indicate the “**severity of**” or “**nature of**” the hazard. The Keyword or Legend wording must be the most prominent lettering on the sign.

5.1 **Keyword** – Words indicating the hazard severity level such as “Danger”, “Warning”, and “Caution”. Keywords must conform to those listed within this document. (see image 5.a below)

5.2 **Legend** - Words indicating the type of hazard such as “High Voltage”, “Tripping Hazard”, or “Low Clearance”. (see image 5.b below)



5.a



5.b

Descriptive text may also be included which gives explanation of the hazard, or steps to be taken to avoid the hazard. Descriptive text should not be the most prominent lettering, and should not detract from the warning information. (Example: “Open Door slowly”, see image 5.c below)



5.c

6. **PICTORIAL STANDARD:**

Images such as Icons, pictures, or graphic portrayals of the hazard must be accompanied by a Legend phrase or text describing the hazard. Example: An image of a man tripping with lettering stating “Tripping Hazard”.



**Note:** Branding images may also be included, and must be located in the border region of the sign so that they do not detract from the warning information.

*Examples: Company logos, SafeProduction logos, or departmental symbols.*

## 7. Severity Levels

**Keyword:** Danger

**Color:** Red Signs & Lights

To be used when there is a hazardous situation, which has a high probability of death or serious injuries. It should not be used for property damage unless personal risk is present.

*Example of when to use this sign is for high voltage areas and H2S gas areas.*



**Keyword:** Warning

**Color:** Orange Signs & Lights

To be used when there is a hazardous situation, which has some probability of death or serious injuries. It should not be used for property damage unless personal risk is present.

*Example of when to use this sign is for hatchway cranes or suspended loads.*



**Keyword:** Warning

**Color:** Yellow Signs & Lights

To be used when there is a hazardous situation, which may result in minor injuries. CAUTION should be used when there is the possibility of death or severe injury.

*An example of when to use this sign is for the entrances to under the fine ore bins.*



**Keyword:** Notice

**Color:** Blue Signs & Lights

To be used to indicate a statement of company policy as the message relates directly or indirectly to the safety of personnel or protection of property. It can also be used to indicate operating conditions.

They are not to be used in place of DANGER, WARNING, or CAUTION signs.

*Examples of their use are: sump high levels or instructing people to sign in as they enter the building.*





**Keyword:** Safety

**Color:** Green Signs & Lights

To be used to indicate general instructions relative to safe work practices, reminders of safety procedures and location of safety equipment.

*Examples of their use would be Respirator required areas & Hearing protection required areas.*



Approved By	Title General Manager, Manitoba Operations
Date	