

Report of Committee on Fire Hazards of Materials

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Alternates

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The Committee on Fire Hazards of Materials presents, for official adoption, amendments to the Recommended System for the Identification of the Fire Hazards of Materials, NFPA No. 704M-1969 edition.

This report has been submitted to letter ballot of the Committee which consists of 19 voting members, of whom 14 have voted affirmatively, 4 negatively, and 1 has not returned a ballot. Messrs. Dyer, Graziano, Sutherland and Olsen have voted negatively. Mr. Neubauer has not returned his ballot.

Essentially these revisions are designed to effect the change of status of this publication from a "Manual" to become a "Standard."

**Proposed Amendments on Revisions to the
Recommended System for the Identification of
The Fire Hazards of Materials**

NFPA No. 704M — 1969

1. *Revise the Foreword to read:*

Foreword

The Committee on Fire Hazards of Materials has been working on the material in this standard since early 1957. A great deal of preliminary work was developed as a manual by the Sectional Committee on Classification, Labelling and Properties of Flammable Liquids of the NFPA Committee on Flammable Liquids starting in 1952. Progress reports were given on this activity at NFPA Annual Meetings and reported in the NFPA Quarterly in July issues of 1954, 1956 and 1958. The material was tentatively adopted as a guide in 1960, adopted in 1961, and further amended in 1964, 1966 and 1969.

As originally conceived, the purpose of the standard is to safeguard the lives of those individuals who may be concerned with fires occurring in an industrial plant or storage location where the fire hazards of materials may not be readily apparent.

2. *Change the title of Chapter 1 to "Scope and Application."*
3. *Add a new section 1-1 to read:*

1-1 This standard applies to facilities for the manufacturing, storage or use of hazardous materials. It is concerned with the health, fire, reactivity and other related hazards created by short term exposure as might be encountered under fire or related emergency conditions. This standard applies to industrial and institutional facilities. It does not apply to transportation or to use by the general public.

4. *In present 10, change the word "guide" to "standard" in line one and delete the last two sentences. Renumber 10 to become 1-2.*
5. *Present 11. Renumber to 1-3 and change "should" to "shall" in line 11.*
6. *Present 12. Line one, change "should" to "shall" and in line 7 delete words "pressurized vessels" and change reference from "Figure 3" to "Figure 1." Renumber to 1-4.*
7. *Present 13. In line two, add words "and emergency" before word "personnel." Renumber to 1-5.*
8. *Present 14. Lines three and four, change "must" to "shall" and add a new last sentence to read: "For additional information see Hazardous Chemicals Data, 1973, NFPA No. 49; Fumigation, 1973, NFPA No. 57; and Fire Hazard Properties of Flammable Liquids, Gases, Volatile Solids, 1969, NFPA No. 325M." Renumber to 1-6.*
9. *Present 15. Renumber to 1-7 and add words "short term" before "exposure" in last line.*
10. *Present 16. Renumber to 1-8 and revise last sentence to read: "In such cases, the identifying symbol shall indicate the most severe degree for any of the materials in each category."*
11. *Chapter II. Renumber to comply with the NFPA Style Manual.*
12. *Present 202, line one, add words "or other emergency conditions" after "fire fighting."*
13. *Present 203, line four, change "should" to "shall."*
14. *Present 204, line one, change "should" to "shall."*
15. *Present Chapter III. Renumber to comply with the NFPA Style Manual.*
16. *Present Chapter IV. Renumber to comply with NFPA Style Manual.*
17. *Present 403, line two, add words "or other" after word "fire."*
18. *Present 404, line one, change "should" to "shall" and add words "and emergency" after words "fire fighting."*

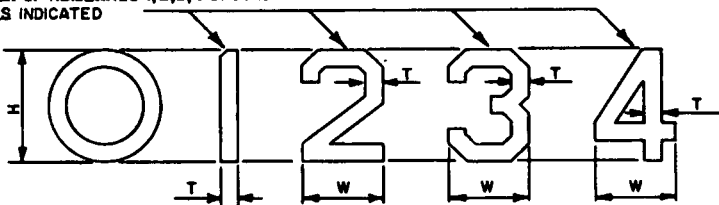
19. *Present 411, line three, change "guide" to "standard" and in the last sentence change "must" to "shall."*
20. *Add a new Chapter 5 by adding the following introduction and moving the following illustrations from the current Appendix A.*

Chapter 5

Identification of Materials by Hazard Signal System

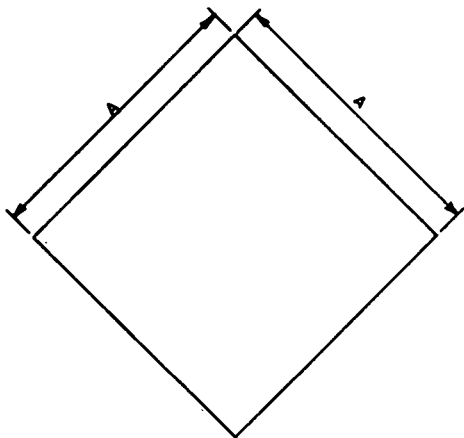
5-1 The system delineated in the following illustrations shall be used for the implementation of this standard.

COLOR OF NUMERALS 1,2,3,4 SHOULD
BE AS INDICATED

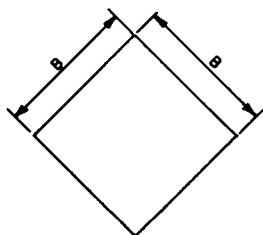


NOTE:

STYLE OF NUMERALS SHOWN IS
OPTIONAL



When Painted
(Use same dimensions
for sign or placard)



When Made From
Adhesive-Backed Plastic
(One for each numeral,
three necessary for each
complete signal)

Minimum Dimensions of White Background for Signals

(White Background is Optional)

Size of Signals	H	W	T	A	B
1		0.7	$\frac{5}{16}$	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{4}$
2		1.4	$\frac{5}{16}$	5	$2\frac{1}{2}$
3		2.1	$\frac{15}{32}$	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$3\frac{3}{4}$
4		2.8	$\frac{5}{8}$	10	5
6		4.2	$\frac{15}{16}$	15	$7\frac{1}{2}$

IDENTIFICATION OF
MATERIALS BY
HAZARD SIGNAL
DIMENSIONS

All Dimensions Given in Inches

WHITE ADHESIVE-BACKED PLASTIC BACKGROUND PIECES - ONE NEEDED FOR EACH NUMERAL, THREE NEEDED FOR EACH COMPLETE SIGNAL.

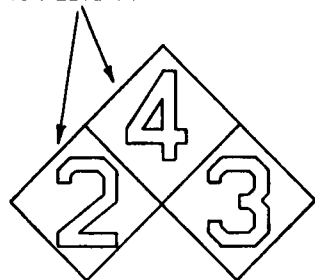


Fig. 1. For Use Where Specified Color Background is Used with Numerals of Contrasting Colors.

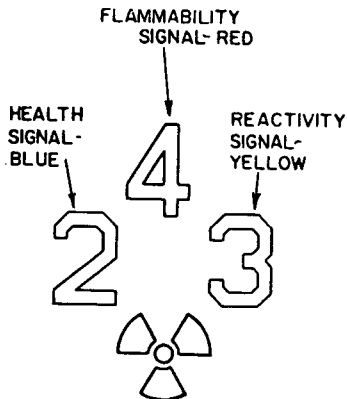


Fig. 2. For Use Where White Background is Necessary.

WHITE PAINTED BACKGROUND, OR, WHITE PAPER OR CARD STOCK

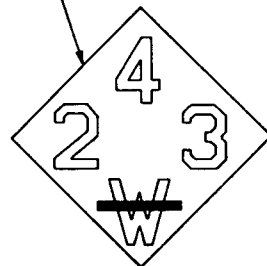


Fig. 3. For Use Where White Background is Used With Painted Numerals, or, For Use When Signal is in the Form of Sign or Placard

ARRANGEMENT AND ORDER OF SIGNALS — OPTIONAL FORM OF APPLICATION

Minimum Distance at Which Signals Must be Legible	Size of Signals Required
50 feet	1"
75 feet	2"
100 feet	3"
200 feet	4"
300 feet	6"

NOTE:

This shows the correct spatial arrangement and order of signals used for identification of materials by hazard

IDENTIFICATION OF MATERIALS BY HAZARD SIGNAL ARRANGEMENT

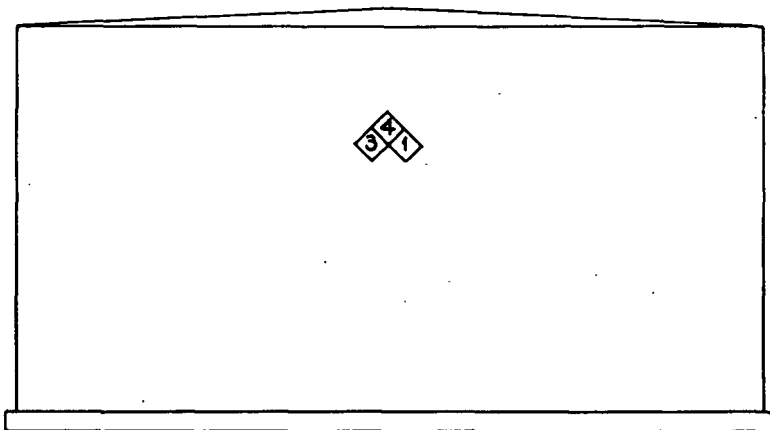


Fig. 4. Storage Tank

21. Delete current Figures 5, 6, 7 and 8.

22. Appendix C. Change "guide" to "standard" in the first paragraph and change "175°F (79.4° C)" to "200° F(93.4°C)" in the last two paragraphs.

23. Delete Appendix D. References.