



## APPROVED EXIT SIGNS

### 2009 IBC - INTERNATIONAL BUILDING CODE®

### 2009 NFPA 101 - LIFE SAFETY CODE®

**2009 IBC, IFC & 2009 Life Safety Code** specify that exit signs used to mark exit doors must be approved. All approved exit signs must be tested and evaluated to the UL 924 performance standard- electric, photoluminescent and self-luminous signs. Exit signs must be so maintained that they will continue to operate for not less than 90 minutes after an electrical power failure.



#### (IBC) CHAPTER 10: MEANS OF EGRESS

##### SECTION 1011: EXIT SIGNS

**1011.1 Where required.** Exits and exit access doors shall be marked by an **approved exit sign** readily visible from any direction of egress travel. The path of egress travel to exits and within exits shall be marked by readily visible exit signs to clearly indicate the direction of egress travel in cases where the exit or the path of egress travel is not immediately visible to the occupants. Intervening means of egress doors within exits shall be marked by exit signs. Exit sign placement shall be such that no point in an exit access corridor or exit passageway is more than 100 feet (30 480 mm) or the listed viewing distance for the sign, whichever is less, from the nearest visible exit sign.

**1011.2 Illumination.** Exit signs shall be internally or externally illuminated.

**1011.3 Tactile exit signs.** A tactile sign stating EXIT and complying with ICC A117.1 shall be provided adjacent to each door to an area of refuge, an exterior area for assisted rescue, an exit stairway, an exit ramp, an exit passageway and the exit discharge.

**1011.4 Internally illuminated exit signs.** Electrically powered, self-luminous and photoluminescent exit signs shall be listed and labeled in accordance with UL 924 and shall be installed in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions and Chapter 27. Exit signs shall be illuminated at all times.

**1011.5 Externally illuminated exit signs.** Externally illuminated exit signs shall comply with Sections 1011.5.1 through 1011.5.3.

**1011.5.1 Graphics.** Every exit sign and directional exit sign shall have plainly legible letters not less than 6 inches (152 mm) high with the principal strokes of the letters not less than 3/4 inch (19.1 mm) wide. The word "EXIT" shall be in high contrast with the background and shall be clearly discernible when the means of exit sign illumination is or is not energized.

**1011.5.2 Exit sign illumination.** The face of an exit sign illuminated from an external source shall have an intensity of not less than 5 foot-candles (54 lux).

**1011.5.3 Power source.** Exit signs shall be illuminated at all times. To ensure continued illumination for a duration of not less than 90 minutes in case of primary power loss, the sign illumination means shall be connected to an emergency power system provided from storage batteries, unit equipment or an on-site generator.

#### (IFC) SECTION 1030: MAINTENANCE OF THE MEANS OF EGRESS

**1030.4 Exit signs.** Exit signs shall be installed and maintained in accordance with Section 1011.



#### CHAPTER 7: MEANS OF EGRESS

##### 7.10 Marking of Means of Egress

**7.10.1.2.1** Exits, other than the main exterior exit doors that obviously and clearly are identifiable exits, shall be marked by an approved sign that is readily visible from any direction of exit access.

**7.10.1.2.2** Horizontal components of the egress path within an exit enclosure shall be marked by approved exit or directional exit signs where the continuation of the egress path is not obvious.

**7.10.7.1 Listing.** Internally illuminated exit signs shall be listed in accordance with UL 924.

**7.10.7.2 Photoluminescent Signs.** The face of a photoluminescent signs shall be continually illuminated while the building is occupied. The charging light source, shall be of a type specified in the product markings.

**7.10.9.1 & 2 Inspection and Testing** according to **7.9.3 – Periodic Testing of Emergency Lighting Equipment.** Monthly testing of electrical exit signs for at least 30 seconds and yearly testing for at least 90 minutes. Intended to test the performance of the sign in normal conditions and the battery & lamps when the electricity fails.