

# EXIT PATH SIGNS & MARKERS

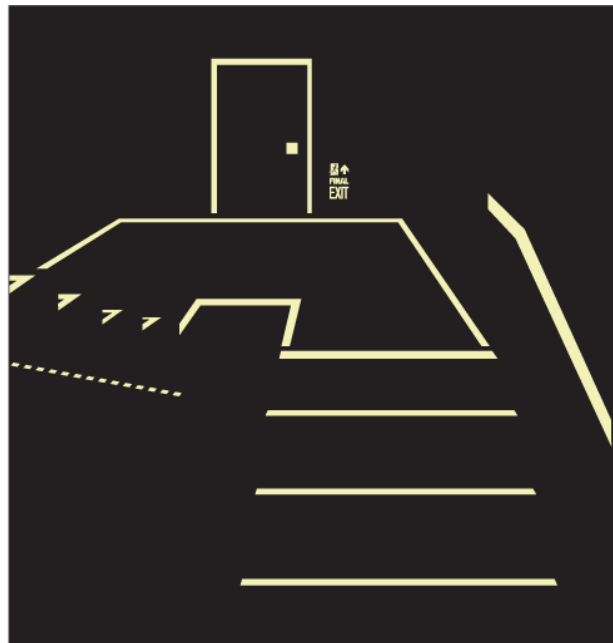
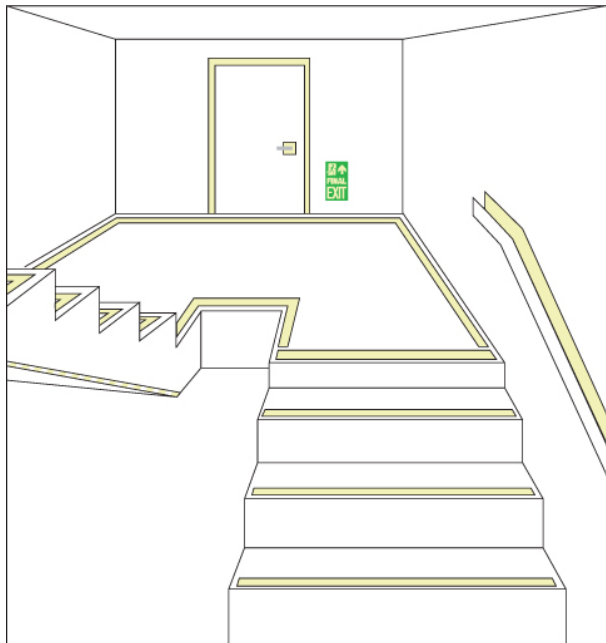
An Exit Path is properly marked if the path to safety is reliably and clearly identified and occupants can easily and quickly find their way to safety during an emergency evacuation.

## SIGNS:

- Exit Doors into and out of the exit path
- Intermediate Exit Doors inside the exit pathway

## MARKERS:

- Door Frames
- Door Hardware
- Directional Markers to avoid confusion that will slow an evacuation
- Stairs and Ramps to clearly and safely show beginning, course and end.
- Handrails must be visible from the top and must show the course of the stairs
- Landings to show the leading edge (step landing) and perimeter of the exit path
- Obstacles to prevent injury during escape and to avoid slowing egress during an emergency



**Exit Stair with door, door hardware, landing, stair tread and handrail marked.**

## **New York City:**

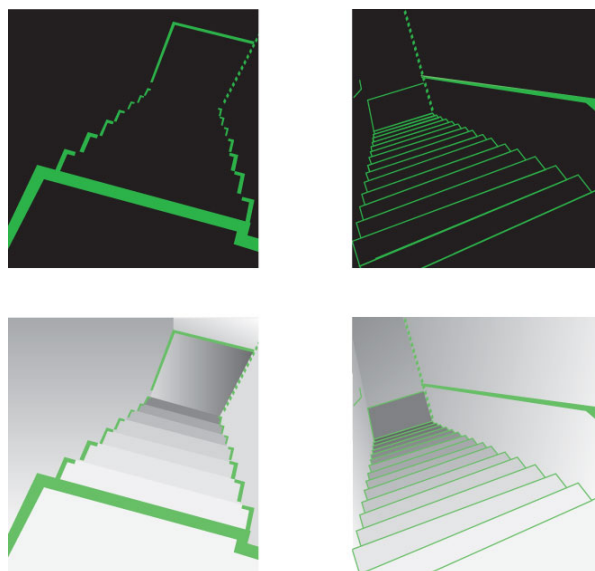
The City Council directed the Department of Buildings to create a specification for safety grade photoluminescent (PL) exit path marking because PL technology is:

- 100% Reliable
- Does not require electricity, batteries, lamps, wiring
- No radioactive or toxic components

All photoluminescent exit pathway signs and markers used in New York City must now conform to RS 6-1 and RS 6-1A. All EverGlow aluminum signs and markers, and all EverGlow films and tapes, exceed the requirements of the current codes and installation services are available. All egress symbols (running man character) and directional arrows conform to ISO 7010. All egress signs and markers used in the exit pathway conform to the green specified in ANSI Z535.1 - 2002.

RS 6-1 specifically requires photoluminescent exit path signs and markers at the floor level (top of each sign or marker must be within 18 inches of the floor) in emergency exits. NYC code allows the use of photoluminescent signs in place of standard (non-photoluminescent) signs where they are required inside emergency exits and by elevators. So long as EverGlow signs are properly labeled with an MEA number the following signs can be used: fire extinguisher and other emergency equipment signs, floor and stair identification signs, exit floor plans, and elevator signs.

New York City does not currently require the use of UL listed exit signs or components used in exit path marking systems specified in RS 6-1. The Department of Buildings is responsible for determining which high rise buildings must conform to RS 6-1 and city building and fire department inspectors can require building owners to comply. Safety grade photoluminescent exit path marking systems installed voluntarily in buildings where they are not required must also conform to the new luminance standards.



**Exit Stairs with side edge stair markers and strips across the stair nose.**

## **Outside New York City:**

California requires Exit Path Marking in specific occupancies. California also requires floor level Exit Signs in addition to the traditional over-the-door signs. Other states and jurisdictions have similar requirements and some building owners install exit signs and exit path marking voluntarily. Federal agencies have also created standards which mandate that exits be clearly marked for use in an emergency.

The model code organizations, ICC and NFPA, have language in their building and fire codes now to specify that all exit signs be listed to UL 924. There are certain occupancies which also require exit path marking be listed to UL 1994. Although there is widespread acceptance that exit signs are a good idea, there is only recently serious discussions to require exit path marking in more occupancies. New York City and California have certainly led the nation protecting their citizens with this code language.

**Signs.** Exit Signs which are NOT listed to UL924 can be found in many buildings around the country. EverGlow offers many different exit signs which can be properly and safely used in offices, factories, warehouses and other occupancies.

Most often these signs are installed in existing occupancies to more clearly identify the exit path after renovations have been made to the original structure. Often, especially in warehouses, retail and assembly occupancies, these large exit signs will be mounted above storage or display racks which otherwise obscure the visibility of the exit location.

All signs can be framed and attached to the wall or ceiling. Custom designs are available. All EverGlow signs and markers meet or exceed all local, national and international standards and codes.

**Directional Markers.** Directional indicators used in Exit Path Marking Systems can take many forms. Most often the design and construction of these directional markers is determined by the area to be marked (tenant space, exit stairs or corridors) and the surface conditions in these areas.

Closely spaced individual markers can be safely used instead of an EverGlow tape or strip marker on most surfaces. Typically, individual markers are uniformly placed 8-12 inches apart (center to center). These are especially useful on brick, block or stone surfaces where the surface is broken or not uniform.

Placement of directional markers, unless otherwise directed by building or fire codes or the AHJ should be at floor level, within 18 inches of the floor. Additional guidance markers can be installed on the wall at eye level- approximately 60 inches from the floor surface.

For stairs, handrails should also be marked. The top surface of the handrail can best be marked with a 1 inch wide EverGlow tape. If the top surface of the handrail will not hold the tape, then a suitable alternative is to mark the wall just above the handrail with a 2 inch wide tape or closely spaced individual markers.

## Exit Path Signs & Markers

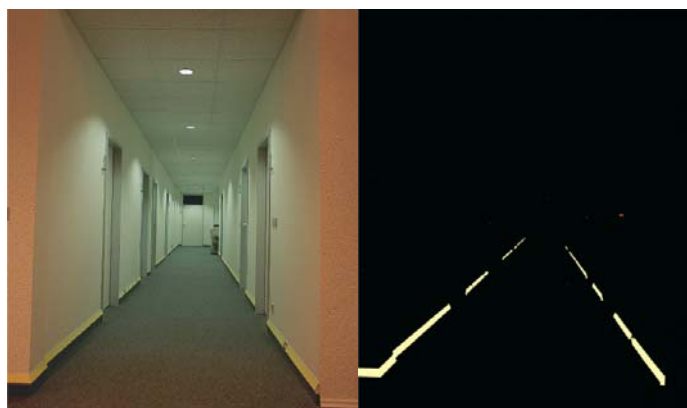
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**Utility Bunker with obstacles and exit path marked.**



**Parking Basement with obstacles and exit path marked.**



**Interior Corridor marked along the baseboard.**