

## 2009 International Building Code - Luminous Egress Path Markings

### Highlights

**Exit path markings:** Exit path markings shall be provided.

**Tactile exit signs:** A tactile sign stating EXIT shall be provided adjacent to each door to an exit stairway, an exit ramp, an exit passageway and the exit discharge.

**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.

**Floor identification signs:** A sign shall be provided at each floor landing in interior exit enclosures connecting more than three stories designating the floor level, the terminus of the top and bottom of the exit enclosure and the identification of the stair or ramp. The signage shall also state the story of, and the direction to the exit discharge and the availability of roof access from the enclosure for the fire department.

### EXIT PATH MARKINGS

**General:** Approved luminous markings delineating the exit path shall be provided in buildings of Group A, B, E, I, M and R-1, i.e.:

- **A: Assembly:** 300+ occupants
- **B: Business:** Office, Storage, Medical (outpatient clinics), Education above 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, Post Offices, Print Shops
- **E: Education:** up to 12<sup>th</sup> grade & Day Care
- **I: Institutional**
- **M: Mercantile** retail stores
- **R-1: Hotels, Motels & Boarding Houses**

**Markings within exit enclosures:** Egress path markings shall be provided in exit enclosures, including vertical exit enclosures and exit passageways.

**Steps:** A solid and continuous stripe shall be applied to the horizontal leading edge of each step.

**Landings:** The leading edge of landings shall be marked with a stripe.

**Handrails:** All handrails and handrail extensions shall be marked with a solid and continuous stripe.

**Perimeter demarcation lines:** Stair landings and other floor areas within exit enclosures, with the exception of the sides of steps, shall be provided with solid and continuous demarcation lines on the floor or on the walls or a combination of both.

**Obstacles:** Obstacles at or below 6 feet 6 inches in height and projecting more than 4 inches into the egress path shall be outlined with markings composed of a pattern of alternating equal bands of luminescent luminous material and black.

**Doors from exit enclosures:** Doors through which occupants within an exit enclosure must pass in order to complete the exit path shall be provided with markings.

**Emergency Exit Symbol:** The door shall be identified by a low-location luminous emergency exit complying with NFPA 170.

**Door Hardware markings:** Door hardware (i.e., door handles and panic bars) shall be marked with luminous material.

**Door frame markings:** The top and sides of the door frame shall be marked with a solid and continuous stripe.

**Materials:** Luminescent exit path markings shall be permitted to be made of any material, including paint, provided that an electrical charge is not required to maintain the required luminance. Such materials shall include, but not be limited to, self-luminous materials and photoluminescent materials.

**Illumination:** Exit enclosures where photoluminescent exit path markings are installed shall be provided with the minimum means of egress illumination required for at least 60 minutes prior to periods when the building is occupied.

**Note:** *The complete 2009 International Building Code is published by the International Code Council and can be found on the worldwide web at <http://www.iccsafe.org>.*