

Safety signs

Training tool for safety instructions



Notes

Topic:

This safety instruction points out the different categories of safety signs. The European Directive 92/58/EWG states minimum requirements for safety and health protection markings at the work place, and depicts various categories of markings. Employees must be instructed on the significance of these safety and health protection markings before the start of their employment, also in regular intervals hereafter.

In particular, the lessons take a pictogram from every category to introduce and discuss the various topics. The following aspects could be addressed in the training (they might be used in several lessons):

Lesson 1: Mandatory signs

- Which requirements exist in our enterprise?
- Why do they exist?
- Are they observed; does every level of hierarchy observe them?
- If they are not observed, why is this?
- Who controls compliance?
- Are violations penalised?
- Are there unmarked hazards?
- Would technical solutions be preferable to personal protection equipment?

Lesson 2: Prohibition signs

- Which prohibitions exist in our enterprise?
- Why do they exist?
- Are they observed; does every level of hierarchy observe them?
- If they are not observed, why is this?
- Who controls compliance?
- Are violations penalised?

Lesson 3: Warning signs

- Which prohibitions exist in our enterprise?
- Why do they exist?
- What consequences do the warnings have on employees' conduct?
- Are the warnings observed; does every level of hierarchy observe them?
- If they are not observed, why is this?
- Are there unmarked hazards?

Lesson 4: Rescue signs

- Which rescue signs exist in our enterprise?
- Do they point in the right direction?
- Are escape routes always kept clear?
- Are the first aid facilities always fully functional and accessible?

Lesson 5: Fire protection signs

- Which fire protection signs exist in our enterprise?
- Do they point in the right direction, do they mark the correct equipment?
- Is the fire protection equipment always kept accessible?
- Are the fire protection facilities always fully functional and accessible?
- Who can correctly handle the fire protection facilities?

Method:

This training tool is not to be used for E-learning. The set of slides is intended to assist managers for the personal instruction of employees and to start an open discussion on the topic of occupational safety.

Text and images included in the lessons provide information on which aspects are most important to the topic. Using this as a basis, discussions should be held on whether and where similar issues occur at the company in question, which specific technical and organisational measures are already in place, and which solutions could improve the situation. Safety instructions can thus be used not just to fulfil legal requirements but also as a tool for promoting ongoing improvement within the company.

Analysing thematically related events and “near misses” at the company (or other incidents known of from literature) can help the staff involved become aware of the relevance of the topic and thus encourage safety-conscious conduct for the long term. This may require further preparation and/or research.

Also included is a picture that can be used to check what has been learned. This can be carried out either with the whole group straight after the training session using the solution slides, as an independent follow-up activity with the solutions revealed at a later stage, or as part of an in-house (safety-themed) event, possibly with prizes.

The content of the safety courses is always focused on the staff involved. They therefore do not include information on measures to be undertaken by the employer.



Lesson 1

Mandatory signs

- Requires a mandatory behavior, e.g. wear hearing protection





Lesson 2

Prohibition signs

- Prohibits a behavior which may lead to danger, e.g. smoking in certain areas





Lesson 3

Warning signs

- Warns against a risk or danger, e.g. against suspended load





Lesson 4

Rescue signs

- Marks e.g. the escape or rescue path and the emergency exit or a First-Aid facility or the way to get there





Lesson 5

Fire protection signs

- Marks the locations of fire alarm and fire extinguishing equipment



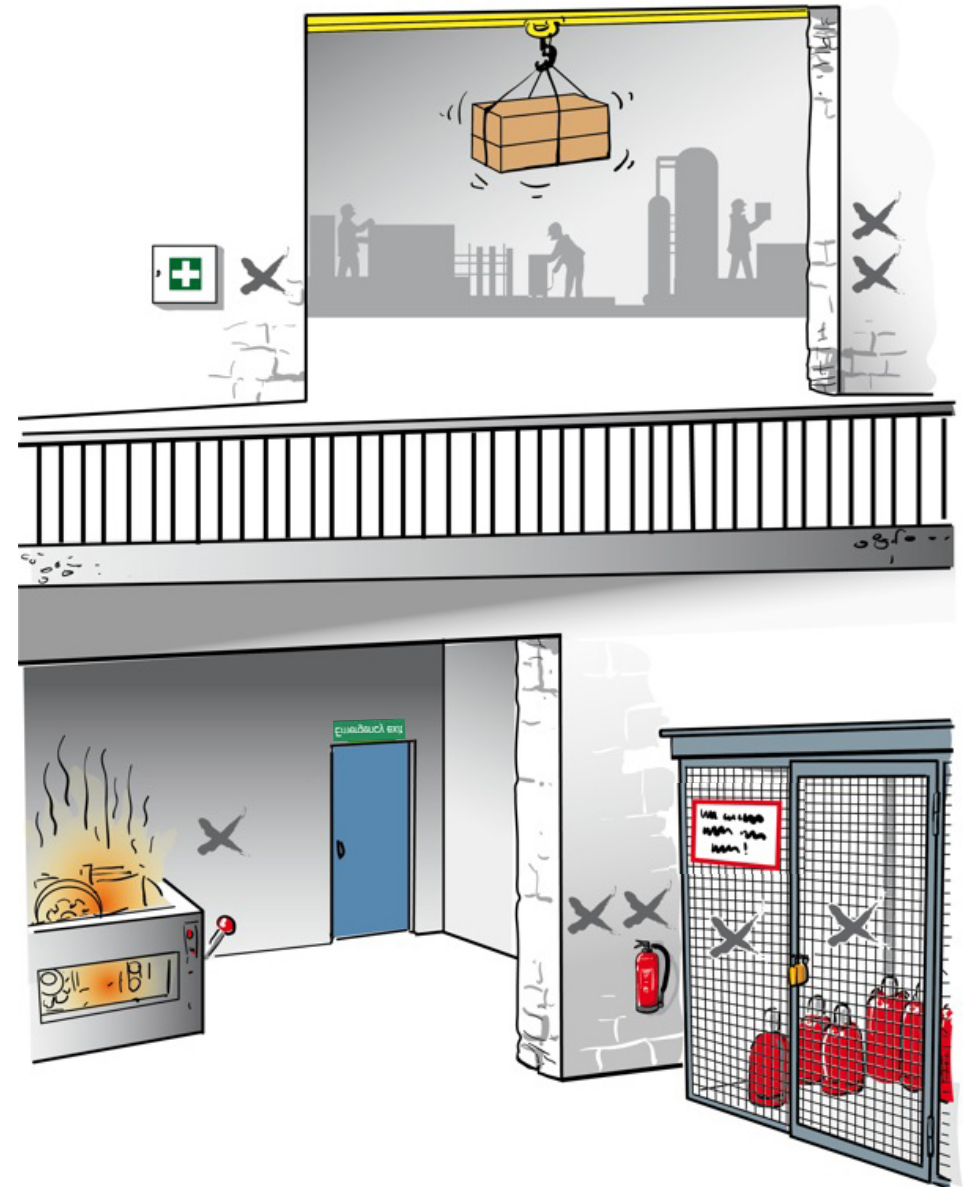


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INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL SECURITY ASSOCIATION

Section on Prevention in the Chemical Industry

Assign the 8 safety signs to the correct locations



Solution

