



Fire Protection Identification

Commercial and industrial facilities have many types of fire protection systems and equipment. These fire suppression systems are in place to protect valuable company assets, guarantee business continuity, and safeguard people and processes. It is important that building owners, facilities managers and building occupants are aware of the fire suppression systems installed within their building or facility and can accurately identify the correct safety measures in place in case of an emergency.

Fire Protection Identification Labeling is a critical component of any facility's safety procedures to ensure the physical safety and security of a building and its occupants. Properly labeled equipment can dramatically reduce the risk of a fire or injury and reduce overall incident response time. Clear and well-placed signage identifies a safe pathway for evacuation illuminating exits or escape routes for personnel in the event of an emergency.

Marking Services Canada (MSC) understands the elements of a fire protection identification program. To aid engineers and architects when devising a building specification, we offer a CSI formatted master specification which outlines information on Fire Suppression Piping and Equipment Identification. For building contractors and facility owners we offer fire protection identification and emergency signage such as fire suppression and sprinkler pipe markers, fire riser labels, valve tags, access panel and door markers and emergency evacuation signage to keep your workplace safe and prevent accidents.

To help you devise a fire protection labeling program we have outlined some recommendations below.

Fire Protection Piping and Equipment Identification

1. Utilize nameplates with the unit number on all mechanical equipment.
2. Access panel and door markers for standpipes, hose and fire extinguisher cabinets, fire and smoke dampers, etc.
3. Provide pipe identification labels including direction-of-flow arrows and with service indicated. All labels shall have background colors matched with specific service designation.
4. Differentiate valves by designating tag numbers.
5. Utilize warning tags at motors and equipment controlled by automatic starters, etc.



Installation of Identification

1. Install equipment labels on each major item of fire suppression equipment where accessible and visible.
2. Install markers on fire suppression access panels and doors.
3. Install tags on all shut-off valves and control devices in piping systems.
4. Install warning tags on each major item of fire suppression equipment.



5. Install pipe labels where piping is exposed or above accessible ceilings in finished spaces; machine rooms; accessible maintenance spaces such as shafts, tunnels, and plenums; and exterior exposed locations as follows:

- Near each valve and control device.
- Near each branch connection, excluding short takeoffs for fixtures and terminal units. Where flow pattern is not obvious, mark each pipe at branch.
- Near penetrations and on both sides of through walls, floors, ceilings, and inaccessible enclosures.
- At access doors, manholes, and similar access points that permit view of concealed piping.
- Near major equipment items and other points of origination and termination.
- Spaced at maximum intervals of 50 feet along each run. Reduce intervals to 25 feet in areas of congested piping and equipment.

6. Clearly identify a safe pathway for evacuation in stairwells, basements, hallways, warehouses, below decks on ships or offshore installations with evacuation signage to illuminate exits or escape routes for building occupants.

FIRE/SMOKE DAMPER

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The MSC advantage: Identification products that communicate valuable safety and operational information.

MSC is well-versed in the identification needs of virtually every kind of facility. We can make identification recommendations that provide greater value to you and your customers. Our markers communicate specific information to operators, maintenance or contractors; providing a quick, accurate snapshot of critical information such as pipe content, flow direction, origin and destination. When identification products come from MSC, you can be confident that its quality, durability, and visibility will protect not only your customer’s assets, but your reputation as well.

Marking Services pipe markers, valve tags and equipment signs enhance overall operations of commercial, industrial, health care, educational and technology facilities. We offer ASME, ANSI, NFPA, and OSHA compliant identification that is widely utilized and installed nationally and internationally. MSC offers a complete line of identification to meet every labeling challenge with extremely fast fulfillment, industry best quality, and no minimum order requirements. Through our value-added services and high-quality products, we significantly raise the level of safety awareness, promote safe work conditions and reduce total “in-place” costs.

