

Information Bulletin

Policy for the Installation of Photoluminescent Exit Signs

There are a number of life safety concerns involved with the acceptance of photoluminescent exit signs in the 2010 National Building Code of Canada that have prompted the City of Winnipeg to detail specific requirements for their use, including the involvement of a professional engineer.

Photoluminescent exit sign installations have numerous requirements that are not applicable for the installation of traditional electrically connected signs, among them: a maximum viewing distance, a minimum duration for visibility, and a minimum light level for a designated time period by a specified light source for charging purposes.

For this reason, the City of Winnipeg requires the following documentation for ALL installations of photoluminescent exit signs regardless of quantity installed or whether a new installation or a replacement of existing signs:

- a. Building floor plan(s) showing all exit sign locations and required adjacent light sources.
- b. A completed City of Winnipeg Photoluminescent Exit Sign Checklist (attached).
- c. A completed Building Design Summary (BDS) or a Required Professional Designer's Certificate (RPDC) where no BDS is required.
- d. A completed Owner's statement.

Items a, b & c above must be signed, sealed and dated by a professional engineer licensed to practice in the Province of Manitoba and knowledgeable in the area of work concerned. The Checklist, BDS, RPDC & Owner's Statement are available from the City of Winnipeg Electrical Info Centre webpage noted below.

In addition to the above noted document requirements, the following should also be noted when replacing existing electrically connected signs with photoluminescent signs:

- a. Any existing electrically connected exit signs being replaced by photoluminescent signs must be removed along with all redundant electrical wiring.
- b. Emergency lighting forming part of existing emergency lighting/exit sign combination units must be maintained and shown on the required floor plans.
- c. An electrical permit is required for the removal of existing electrically connected signs and the permit application must indicate the quantity of new signs and/or signs being replaced.
- d. It is not acceptable to install a photoluminescent sign on the front of an electrically connected sign; the manufacturer's mounting installation requirements must be adhered to and the existing sign must be removed.

- e. The requirement for replacing existing red EXIT signs with green pictogram signs will be as per the City of Winnipeg Exit Sign Policy.

Visit the City of Winnipeg [Electrical Info Centre](#) for more
Information on all things electrical.

Bookmark it or add it to your Favourites!

Photoluminescent Exit Signs Checklist

For installation compliance with CAN/ULC-S572 and the MBC
(complete ALL items below)

| | | | |
|---|-------------|---|--|
| Project | | | |
| Project Address | Street No.: | Street Name: | |
| Building or Electrical Permit Application # | | Quantity of photoluminescent exit signs installed for this project: | |

| | | |
|-----------|--|--|
| 1. | This project is a replacement of existing exit signs or a replacement of exit sign/ emergency lighting combination units <u>only</u> (i.e.: no additional exit signs are being installed)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| 2. | Installed exit signs meet CAN/ULC-S572 requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. | Exit sign locations do not exceed the maximum viewing distances labeled on the signs | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. | Exit signs duration of visibility meet the minimum requirements for the building emergency power as per MBC 3.2.7.4. Specify MBC duration requirement: | <input type="checkbox"/> 2hr <input type="checkbox"/> 1hr <input type="checkbox"/> 30min |
| 5. | External Light Source | |
| a. | Minimum 54 lux is provided on each exit sign face | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| b. | External light source is <u>not</u> controlled by a: (check all) <input type="checkbox"/> Switch <input type="checkbox"/> Timer <input type="checkbox"/> Building Management System <input type="checkbox"/> Motion Sensor <input type="checkbox"/> Dimming System | |
| c. | Circuit breaker(s) is/are locked in the “on” position or accessible to authorized personnel only | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| d. | Type of external light source(s) is/are as per manufacturer’s requirements Specify: _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. | Where photoluminescent exit signs are replacing signs that formed part of existing emergency lighting/exit sign combination units, the affected | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |

| | | |
|----|---|--------------------------|
| | emergency lighting will meet MBC requirements upon completion of the project | |
| 7. | Exit signs will be installed as per the manufacturer's mounting requirements | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 8. | Site inspection will be performed by the engineer of record or his/her representative to confirm the above requirements have been met | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Checklist Completed by: _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Engineer's Seal

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Fax completed form to Electrical Plan Examination at 204-986-3045