

Regulatory Compliance

ANSI Pipe Labeling and Marking Standards

Brought To You by Brady | Jul 10, 2019

What are OSHA's requirements related to ANSI Pipe Marking Standards?

Pipe labeling marking standards are not specifically outlined or defined by OSHA, but standard number **1910.261(a)(3)(ii)** notes the ASME's (ANSI) standard A13.1 as the recommended scheme for identification of pipe systems.

The ASME Standard for Pipe Identification is a widely used guideline in determining pipe identification requirements. The ASME A13.1-2007 editorial notes indicate that, "A13.1 is intended to establish a common system to assist in identification of hazardous materials conveyed in piping systems and their hazards when released in the environment." It goes on to identify that this scheme provides pipe system identification recommendations for industrial workplaces, power plants, commercial and institutional installations, and buildings used for public assembly.

| Label Color | Text Color | Color | Pipe Contents |
|-------------|------------|-------|---|
| Red | White | | Fire-quenching fluids |
| Orange | Black | | Toxic and corrosive fluids |
| Yellow | Black | | Flammable fluids |
| Brown | White | | Combustible fluids |
| Green | White | | Potable, cooling, boiler feed and other water |
| Blue | White | | Compressed air |
| Purple | White | | Defined by user |
| Gray | | | |
| Black | | | |
| White | Black | | Defined by user |

Pipe Marker Visibility and Size Requirements

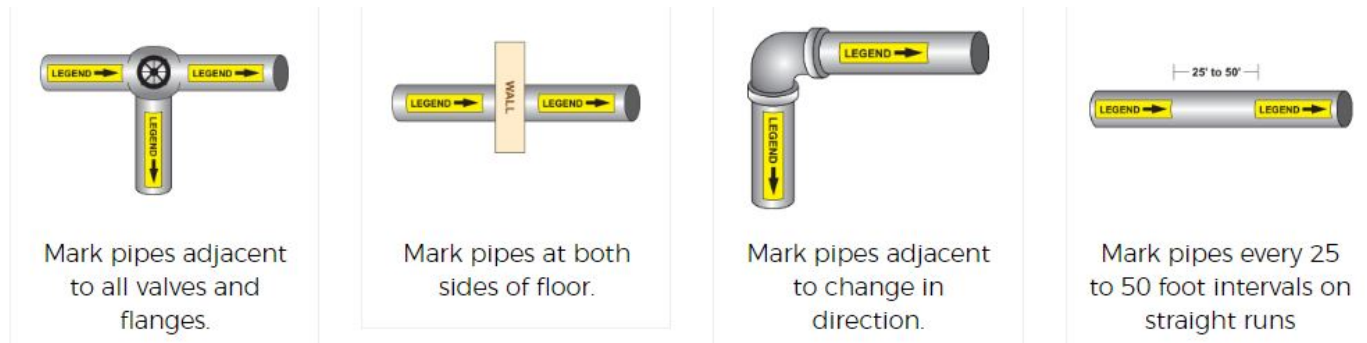
The ANSI standard A13.1 states that, "Markers shall be located so that they are readily visible to plant personnel from the point of normal approach." They need to instantly tell you all you need to know about pipe contents, direction of flow, and whether the contents are hazardous or safe.

What if your pipe or covering outside diameter is less than 3/4 inch or 19 mm?

In cases where it is difficult to label a pipe or covering due to size, we advise using durable and long-lasting **energy source valve tags** or **custom blank tags** in place of pipe labels or markers.

Pipe Marker Placement

Now that we know what our pipe labels need to look like and how big they need to be, we need to understand where they go.



To help you stay ANSI compliant, download this *Pipe Marker Color and Size Guide* from Brady.

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