

# nationalgrid

# **Company Directive**

# STANDARD TECHNIQUE: OH4N/4

## Notices, Signs & Labels for Overhead Lines

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**Implementation Date:** 

April 2015

Approved by

**Policy Manager** 

Date:

23 April 2015

All references to Western Power Distribution or WPD must be read as National Grid Electricity Distribution or NGED

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#### **Implementation Plan**

#### Introduction

This Standard Technique contains the requirements for standard signs to be used within Western Power Distribution.

#### Main Change

With the introduction of a single emergency telephone number of 0800 6783 105, there is a requirement for the specification of signage that has an emergency telephone number to be changed, this change reflects that requirement.

Following the issue of ST: OH4U this change introduces a newly designed Fibre Optics label which is more fit for purpose.

#### **Impact of Changes**

Whilst this change introduces a new emergency contact number for the whole company there will be little impact on the business as the old emergency numbers assigned to existing signage will be retained as valid contact numbers.

#### **Implementation Actions**

Team Managers should brief their staff that they should continue to use the existing signage until stocks have been depleted, at which time the new signs and codes where applicable will be introduced.

Logistics shall when existing stocks of notices have been exhausted introduce the new signs and item codes where applicable.

Surf Telecoms should now ensure that where Fibre Optics cable has been installed on poles the label depicted in Fig 16 Fibre Optic Label for Wood Poles should now be used.

#### **Implementation Timetable**

These changes are not retrospective.

Existing stocks bearing the old emergency numbers will be used first.

The new signs will be introduced together with the new Item number where applicable when existing stocks are depleted.

| Document R  | evision & Review Table   | -             |
|---|--|---------------|
| Date  | Comments   | Author        |
| 23/04/2015  | <ul><li>WPD has introduced a single emergency telephone number 0800 6783</li><li>105 all signage that has emergency telephone numbers have been amended to reflect this change.</li><li>New design Fibre Optics label introduced which replaces the existing Fig. 16</li></ul> | Mike Chapman  |
| 03/09/2014  | Para 4.1 changed, no longer requiring colour plates to be fitted to non-<br>climbing legs. Instead, colour plates shall, in future, be fitted to be both<br>"outside" faces of the climbing legs.  | Sven Hoffmann |
| 09/01/2014  | Figs 18a, b & c – Amendments made to fishing signage in line with changes to national guidance document Safety, Health and Environment Angler Safety - Managing Risks Associated with Angling in Close Proximity to Overhead Electric Power Lines.                             | Mike Chapman  |
| <ol> <li>General Clarification of Stocked (inclusion of shops number where applicable) &amp; Non stock items.</li> <li>Amendments to Fig 3a &amp; 3b dimensions</li> <li>Fig 5 - Removal for requirement for emergency numbers on Tower Safety Signs.</li> <li>New Appendix B – Approved Suppliers of Signage</li> <li>Contents Page Included</li> <li>Section 2.5 Other Notices included which makes reference to where</li> </ol> | Mike Chapman   |               |
| 19/3/2013   |  | Mike Chapman  |

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#### 1.0 SCOPE

- 1.1 The Electricity Safety, Quality and Continuity Regulations contain requirements for application of approved Safety Signs to LV and HV supports.
- 1.2 This document contains the requirements for standard signs to be used within Western Power Distribution. This ST must be read in conjunction with the following Standard Techniques:-
  - ST:OH3A and ST:OH5A Inspection of Overhead Lines
  - ST:OH3F Overhead Line Records of Risks to Public and Risk Reduction Actions
  - ST:OH4M Anti-Climbing Devices for HV Lines Up to and Including 132kV

#### 2.0 SAFETY SIGNS FOR SUPPORTS

#### 2.1 Safety Signs for Steel Towers

Positioning of signs shall be as shown in fig 1.

Steel towers shall be fitted with the combined Property/ Safety plate (as shown in fig 4) and this shall be positioned such that it faces the normal origin of supply except where the plate may be come obscured.

In addition each tower shall be fitted with a Safety Sign (as shown in fig 5). The Safety Sign shall be mounted on steel straps (WPD 43-95/12) and fixed to the opposite tower face to that used by the Property/ Safety plate.

There are several different designs of steel towers and for that reason Safety Signs may have to be mounted in different positions. However all signs must be placed above the anticlimbing guard and preferably suspended from a horizontal tower bracing adjacent to the tower leg fitted with step bolts.

On towers considered to be vulnerable to unauthorised climbing two additional Safety Signs shall be fitted to provide notice of warning on each face of the tower.

Danger of Death notices must meet the dimensional requirements of the Electricity Supply Quality and Continuity Regulations outlined in Appendix 'A' Fig 20.

#### 2.2 Safety Signs for Wood Poles

Positioning of signs shall be as shown in fig 2 but at a minimum height of 2m.

Single poles which are not susceptible to unauthorised climbing shall be fitted with one Safety Sign (as shown in fig 3a or b) facing the direction from which the person is most likely to approach.

Two pole structures such as 'H Poles' shall be fitted with two Safety Signs, one facing outward on each pole.

Where wood poles are in a location susceptible to unauthorised climbing they shall be fitted with a minimum of two Safety Signs dependent on risk and placed in such a direction as to be most effective.

Danger of Death notices must meet the dimensional requirements of the Electricity Supply Quality and Continuity Regulations outlined in Appendix 'A' Fig 20.

#### 2.3 Safety Signs in 'High Risk' Areas

In deciding the need for additional Safety Signs it will be necessary to consider the normal use of the land and other factors which may increase the probability of unauthorised climbing.

Whilst it is not possible to define where a support may be vulnerable the following examples are listed as being suggestive of high risk areas which may require additional signs:-

- Schools.
- Children's play areas.
- Caravan or Chalet sites where occupancy is for a short period.
- Areas where experience has shown problems may exist (e.g. illegal play areas and areas of high vandalism).
- Recreational Site Boating areas including Boat Storage, Parks and Fishing Areas etc.

Site specific warning signs for such activities as kite flying etc. can be found within the purchasing catalog and shall be fitted where appropriate.

#### 2.4 Safety Signs for Concrete or Steel Masts

Because of the wide variations in the design of concrete and steel masts in service a typical drawing can not be provided for the positioning of warning notices. However the general principle as outlined above should be adopted in choosing the number and position of Safety Signs.

#### 2.5 **Other Notices**

Where overhead lines cross features such as the entrance to all camping and caravan site fields (fig 17), banks of fishing grounds (18a, 18b and/or 18c), railway crossing navigable waterway crossings (fig 17) etc. Additional signs are required further details can be found in ST:OH5A.

#### **3.0 SUPPORT NUMBERS**

#### 3.1 Steel Tower Number Plates

Steel towers shall be fitted with number plate (as shown in fig 7) which should be fitted below the Property/Safety Plate.

#### 3.2 Wood Pole Numbers

All wood pole supports shall be fitted with pole numbers (as shown in fig 6) at a minimum height of 2m above ground.

#### 4.0 CIRCUIT IDENTIFICATION COLOUR PLATES

#### 4.1 **Steel Tower Circuit Plates**

Circuit colour plates (as shown in fig 8a or b) shall be fitted to all climbing legs (any leg fitted with step bolts) of steel tower supports. The plates shall be fixed under step bolts at flag bracket height, at 2m below the lowest conductor or jumper (or immediately below any Cable Sealing end platform), and below each crossarm.

Plates shall be fitted on <u>both outside faces</u> of the climbing leg immediately below the crossarm levels (a total of 8 plates will be required per climbing leg).

#### 4.2 **Circuit Plates for Wood Poles**

Circuit colour plates (as shown in fig 9a or b) shall be fitted above the Safety Sign on all 132kV wood pole supports.

Circuit plates should also be fitted on each member of 'H Pole' supports carrying dual circuit 11kV or 33kV lines.

#### 5.0 PHASE PLATES

Phase plates (as shown in fig 10) shall be mounted next to the Property/Safety Sign on terminal and junction steel tower supports.

#### 6.0 SUBSTATION NAME AND NUMBER PLATE

11kV pole mounted transformer positions shall be fitted with a plate denoting the substation name and number above the Safety Sign (see fig 2) and at a minimum height of 2m.

#### 7.0 AIR BREAK SWITCH DISCONECTOR (ABSD)

#### 7.1 **ABSD Classification Label**

Air Break Switch Disconector operational classification category shall be fitted (e.g. 2F denoting Class 2 able to close on to a suspected Fault) to the supports on the right hand side of the switch operating handle.

The relevant classification reference should be made up with individual characters mounted on an aluminum strip (see fig 6).

#### 7.2 **ABSD Plant Label**

The unique plant number for an ABSD can be produced in the same way as the pole numbering (see fig 6) and shall be fitted in accordance with ST: OC 12C.

#### 8.0 PROTECTIVE MULTIPLE EARTH (PME) POSITIONS

A PME plate (see fig 11) shall be fitted where a PME system is carried on an LV pole at which the neutral conductor can be sectionalised. The plate should be fixed immediately beneath the neutral insulator.

#### 9.0 EARTHWIRE IDENTIFICATION PLATE

An Earthwire Identification Plate (see fig 12) shall be fitted where a continuous separate earthwire is used on an LV overhead system. The plate should be fixed immediately beneath the insulator carrying the earthwire.

#### **10.0 RAILWAY CROSSING NOTICES**

As part of the agreement with Network Rail, where overhead lines cross railway tracks a notice shall be erected (see fig 13).

This notice was agreed by Network rail on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September 2003.

The notice shall be erected on railway property at each side of the railway tracks.

#### 11.0 DECAYED / SUSPECT / LIMITED

Decayed / suspect and Limited pole labels (fig 15a, b or c) shall be fitted in line with ST: OH5B.

#### **12.0 FIBRE OPTICS**

All structures carrying fibre optics shall be labeled (see fig 16)

#### **13.0 HI REFLECTIVE STRIPS**

HI Reflective Strips are reflective from over 400m distance when a light is shone on them and should enable an operator to locate a switch quicker and more safely.

Fig 19a can be fitted to sectionalisers and reclosers & Fig 19b can be fitted to ABSD's. The strips should be fitted as and when, where it is believed it will assist operators finding their location during darkness.

They should be applied in a vertical position where possible in the likely direction of approach. Where this is ambiguous then they can be wrapped around the pole but this must be just below the bottom of item of plant.



**Position of Circuit Identification Colour Plates** 



Note

Safety signs to be fitted facing opposite direction to Property /Safety sign. In areas susceptible to unauthorised climbing additional Safety Signs shall be fitted.

#### Fig 1 Position of Signs on Steel Towers



- Pole Numbers as shown in fig 6 shall be fitted on all LV, 11kV, 33kV and 66kV Supports in line with
   3.2 above and shall be placed at a minimum height of 2m.
- 2 Safety Signs as shown in fig 3 shall be fitted on all LV and HV supports and shall be placed at a minimum height of 2m.
- 3. Substation name and number plate shall be fitted at pole-mounted transformer positions and shall be placed at a minimum height of 2m.
- 4 Circuit colour palates as shown in fig 9a or b shall be fitted on all 66 & 132kV supports. Each member of an 11kV or 33kV dual circuit poles shall be fitted with identification plates as shown in fig 14 they shall be placed at a minimum height of 2m.

#### Fig 2 Position of Signs on Poles



NOTES:

- 1. Material 300 X 220mm, 1.5mm ABS 4 x 6mm Holes @ 12mm Centres to BS5378 Pt. 1
- 2. Colours & Legend Yellow Background with Black Legend 14mm Helvetica Font
- 3. Plates shall be supplied bent to 150mm Radius for Wood Pole Mounting
- 4. Emergency Telephone Numbers: 0800 6783 105
- 5. Unique Shops Number: 30535

Fig 3a Safety Sign for Wood Pole E.M., W.M. & S.West



NOTES:

- 1. Material 300 X 220mm, 1.5mm ABS 6 x 6mm Holes @ 12mm Centres to BS5378 Pt. 1
- 2. Colours & Legend Yellow Background with Black Legend 11.4mm Helvetica Font.
- 3. Plates shall be supplied bent to 150mm Radius for Wood Pole Mounting.
- 4. Emergency Telephone Number: 0800 6783 105
- 5. Unique Shops Code 37140

Fig 3b Safety Sign for Wood Pole South Wales



#### Note

1. Signs can be of Vitreous Enamel on 1.5mm (16 BG) iron plate (Non-stock) or 3mm ABS the shops codes above identifies the contracted supplier of the ABS plastic sign; where Vitreous Enamel finished signs are required these will need to be purchased locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

2. Emergency Telephone Number: 0800 6783 105

3. Unique E Code - 30537

#### Fig 4 Property/Safety Sign For Steel Towers



315 x 300mm 3mm ABS. Yellow 4 x 13mm Holes @ 14.5mm Centers

#### NOTES:

**1.** Signs can be of Vitreous Enamel on 1.5mm (16 BG) iron plate or 3mm ABS The shops codes below identify the contracted supplier of the ABS plastic signs. Where Vitreous Enamel finished signs are required these will need to be purchased locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

#### 2. Shops Numbers

- English 30531
- Bi-Lingual 37043

#### Fig 5 Safety Sign For Steel Towers



Note:

Characters must be identifiable even if colours have been completely degraded by UV radiation, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

#### Fig 6 Examples of Number Plate Systems for Wood Poles



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres
- 2. Tower number shown is typical only. Lettering required as quoted on order to be symmetrically spaced. (N.B. Fixing holes must be handed as shown on drawing)
- 3. Lettering to be in BLACK (Helvetica Medium type face or of an equivalent font size so that it can be easily read) on WHITE background; back of plate and line to be in BLACK.
- 4. Non Stock item, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.
- Characters must be identifiable even if colours have been completely degraded by UV radiation or have long term UV degradation properties. Acceptable number plates can be vitreous enamelled finish on 1.5mm (16 BG) iron plate, embossed or characters individually punched out so as to ensure legibility as per fig 6 but as item 3 above.

#### Fig 7 Number Plate for Steel Towers



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Plates to be coloured in 100mm bands or single colour as specified on order. Back of plated to be BLACK
- 3. Non Stock item, to be sourced locally, unless otherwise agreed and stated on order, signs to be vitreous enamelled finish on 1.5mm (16 BG) iron plate, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

Fig 8a Circuit Colour Plate for Steel Towers



NOTE: Non Stock Item, to be sourced locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

Fig 8b Circuit Colour Plate for Steel Towers (Midlands)





First colour specified on order to cover Quadrants X Second colour to cover Quadrants 'Y'.



#### **DESCRIPTION NOTE**

1

(Blue CHEVRON on Yellow) is an example of the way that a CIP Colour Combination is described, the Symbol colour followed by the Circle Background colour; An example is shown under the name of each symbol. This will match the sample colouring of the Symbol design shown on the drawing. Symbol colours are indicative only. Actual colour combinations to be specified with each order.

NOTE: Non Stock Item, to be sourced locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

Fig 8b Circuit Colour Plate for Steel Towers (Midlands) Cont.



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Plates to be coloured in 100mm bands or single colour as specified on order.
- 3. Non Stock Item, to be sourced locally, unless otherwise agreed and stated on order, plates to be non-reflecting stove lacquered finish on 1.2mm (18 s.w.g.) sheet aluminium. Back of plate to be Alocrom finished, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.
- 4. Plates to be supplied complete with 2 x 40mm No 12 galvanised cup headed screws; 4 x metal washers and 2 x fibre washers.

Fig 9a Circuit Colour Plates for 132kV Wood Poles



NOTE: Non Stock Item, to be sourced locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

Fig 9b Circuit Colour Plate for 132 kV Wood Poles (Midlands)







#### **DESCRIPTION NOTE**

(Blue CHEVRON on Yellow) is an example of the way that a CIP Colour Combination is described, the Symbol colour followed by the Circle Background colour; An example is shown under the name of each symbol. This will match the sample colouring of the Symbol design shown on the drawing. Symbol colours are indicative only. Actual colour combinations to be specified with each order.

NOTE: Non Stock Item, to be sourced locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

Fig 9b Circuit Colour Plate for 132 kV Wood Poles (Midlands) Cont.



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Plates to be supplied in sets, one off each as follows WHITE ring on RED background WHITE ring on BLUE background BLACK ring on YELLOW background Back of the plate to be BLACK
- 3. Non Stock Item, to be sourced locally, unless otherwise agreed and stated on order, signs to be vitreous enamelled finish on 1.5mm (16 BG) iron plate, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.

#### **Fig 10 Phase Plate**



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Lettering to be WHITE on RED background
- 3. Unless otherwise agreed new signs to be manufactured from 1.5mm ABS plastic.
- 4. Shops Code 30548

#### Fig 11 PME Plate



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Lettering to be WHITE on RED background
- 3. Unless otherwise agreed and stated on order, signs to be manufactured from 1.5mm ABS plastic, alternatively plates can be non-reflecting stove lacquered finish on 0.7mm sheet aluminium. Back of plate to be Alocrom finished, however this type of sign is not stocked and must be purchased locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.
- 4. Non Stock item, to be sourced locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B

#### Fig 12 Earthwire Identification Plate



- 1. Lay out of sign colours, symbol and text to conform with requirements of Fig 20
- 2. Material to be 3mm ABS plastic top surface printed with UV varnish or 2mm Retro Reflective Polycarbonate, undersurface printed.
- 3. Drawing for illustrative purposes only, when requesting sign from supplier quote drawing
- 4. Emergency Telephone Number: 0800 6783 105
- 5. Non Stock item, to be sourced locally, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B

Fig 13 Railway Crossing Notice Plate



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Plates to be coloured in single colour as specified on order.
- 3. Non Stock item, characters must be identifiable even if colours have been completely degraded by UV radiation Or have long term UV degradation properties. Acceptable plates can be non-reflecting stove lacquered finish on 1.2mm (18 s.w.g.) sheet aluminium. Back of plate to be Alocrom finished, embossed or characters individually punched out so as to ensure legibility, details of a supplier can be found in Appendix B.
- 4. Plates to be fitted with 2 x 40mm No 12 galvanised cup headed screws; 4 x metal washers and 2 x fibre washers.

#### Fig 14 Circuit Identification Plate for 11kV and 33kV Wood Poles



- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Unless otherwise agreed and stated on order, labels to be 1.5mm ABS white plastic with red lettering.
- 3. Labels to be supplied with 4 x 3mm holes.
- 4. Shops numbers
  - D = 30526
  - S = 30527
  - L = 42061

#### Fig 15 Decayed, Suspect and Limited Pole Labels



Printed Green onto 1.5mm White ABS complete with 4 x 6mm drill holes and curved to 150° radius

#### Notes

- 1. All dimensions in millimetres.
- 2. Lettering to be WHITE on GREEN background.
- 3. Non Stock item Quote Item Code 60732

#### Fig 16 Fibre Optic Label for Wood Poles



- 1. Label to BS 5378 PT.1 and ESI registered design.
- 2. Colours and legend, Danger Symbol, Danger of Death Electric Overhead line Lettering to be BLACK on YELLOW background. Lettering to be Helvetica to be inline with dimensions outlined in Fig 20
- 3. Material to be 3mm thick ABS, top surface printed with UV varnish.
- 4. Shops No's
  - o E.M., W.M., S. West 39866
  - o S. Wales 37064

Fig 17 Danger of Death Electric Overhead Line Notice for Camp Site, Caravan Parks, Waterways.



NOTE: Not stocked but quote Shops No. 40611when ordering.

#### Fig 18a No Fishing Beyond This Point



NOTE: Not stocked but quote Shops No. 40612 when ordering.

Fig 18b Fishery / Access Sign



8 x 6mm holes @ 8mm centers

NOTE: Not stocked but quote Shops No. 60205 when ordering.

Fig 18c No Fishing Sign

| A۲ | HL167 | Yellow Reflective Strip |     |       |
|----|-------|-------------------------|-----|-------|
|    |       |                         |     | 1     |
|    |       |                         |     | 100mm |
|    |       | 750                     | )mm |       |

- 1. Dimensions: 100x750mm
- 2. Material: 1mm Clear Makrolon laminated with Reflexite VC311 Daybright Yellow Reflective
- 3. Shops code: 51214

#### Fig 19a Yellow Reflective Strip for Reclosers, Sectionalisers

AHL133 White Reflective Strip

750mm

Notes:

- 1. Dimensions: 100x750mm
- 2. Material: 1mm Clear Makrolon laminated with Reflexite VC311 Daybright White Reflective
- 3. Shops code: 51213

#### Fig 19b White Reflective Strip for ABSD's



- A safety sign shall incorporate a design, and shall be of the proportions, as shown in the diagram above, except that the height of the text may be in the range of a minimum .07 x L to a maximum of 0.12 × L.
- 2. The triangle, symbol and text shall be shown in black on a yellow background.
- 3. The symbol shall not occupy more than 50 per cent of the area within the triangle.
- 4. A safety sign may include additional text but any such text -

(a) shall be in black; and

- (b) shall be the same size as the text used on the safety sign,
- 5. And no part of any additional text shall appear on the sign higher than the base of the triangle.

#### Fig 20 ESQCR Requirements for Design, Colours and Proportions of Safety Signs

#### **APPROVED SUPPLIERS OF SIGNS / NOTICES**

#### **Numbering Systems**

Ritelite (Stocked in Midlands) Meadow Park Bourne Road Essendine Stamford Tel No. 01780 758592

Clydesdale Limited (Non-Stocked) Wally Sample House 3 Sunbeam Rd Woburn road Industrial Estate Kempston Bedfordshire Tel No. 01234 855855

#### **Metal Signage**

Trico V.E. Ltd Darrel Nichols 76 Windmill Hill Colley Gate Halesowen West Midlands B63 2BZ Tel No. 01384 569555 darrel@trico-ve.co.uk

#### Plastic & Aluminium Signage

Brissco Signs & Graphics Mandy Freake Unit 25 Cater Road Bristol Tel No. 0117 3113777

#### **APPENDIX C**

#### SUPERSEDED DOCUMENTATION

This document supersedes ST:OH4N/3 dated September 2013 which should now be withdrawn.

#### **APPENDIX D**

#### ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTATION

ST:OH3A and ST:OH5A - Inspection of Overhead Lines ST:OH3F - Overhead Line Records of Risks to Public and Risk Reduction Actions ST:OH4M - Anti-Climbing Devices for HV Lines Up to and Including 132kV

#### **APPENDIX E**

#### IMPACT ON COMPANY POLICY

Whilst this change introduces a new emergency contact number for the whole company there will be little impact on the business as the old emergency numbers assigned to existing signage will be retained.

#### **APPENDIX F**

#### **IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY**

These changes are not retrospective.

Staff should continue to use the existing signage until stocks have been depleted at which time the new signs and codes where applicable will be introduced through the introduction of new item codes where applicable.

Where Fibre Optic cable has been installed on poles the label depicted in Fig 16 Fibre Optic Label for Wood Poles should now be used.

#### **APPENDIX G**

#### **KEY WORDS**

Signs, Notices, Overhead Lines