Have a clear understanding of what is running through your pipes

**Pipeline Identification Standards**

Health and Safety (Signs & Signals) Regulations require employers to identify all pipes within their facility. Several norms exist across Europe, which indicate how pipes should be identified. Pipes transporting dangerous and hazardous substances must be identified with the relevant danger symbol and the name of the hazardous or dangerous substance.

Unmarked pipes are a danger to both life and property. Accidents, injuries and damage to equipment can be caused by people not knowing what individual pipes contain. Especially hazardous unmarked piping is for the maintenance personnel that, in some cases, have to disassemble pipeline parts.
By correctly identifying pipes errors that have and may lead to accidents can be prevented. Marking the pipelines is not only a good engineering practice but a safe one as well as it is of vital importance for emergency services, outside maintenance contractors as well as new employees and temporary staff. It will also make maintenance work easier and prevent time consuming searches. If an accident does occur, correct identification can help save valuable time - and even lives.

**Regulatory Explanation - GHS & CLP**

On the 28th November 2008 the European Council adopted the GHS (Global Harmonised System). The publication followed on the 31st December 2008 meaning that GHS can now be applied from 21st January 2009. The GHS and CLP (Classification, Labelling and Packaging) addresses classification of chemicals by type of hazards and proposed harmonized hazard communication elements.

GHS also provides a basis for harmonisation of rules and regulations on chemicals at national, regional and worldwide level, an important factor also for trade facilitation. For the European Union, the mandatory dates for the implementation are set as follows: Substances from 01/12/2010, Mixtures from 01/06/2015. During the transition period, period between the European Directive and the effective dates mentioned above, both systems are permitted. These new regulations require companies to reassess their classification and labelling systems. Be aware that danger symbols have also changed with this new classification, up to 6 danger symbols can be attributed to a single product. In addition, the regulation mentions a signal word (Warning or Danger).

**Maintenance Tip**

- The Signs & Signals Regulations recommend that markers should be mounted on all visible sides of the pipe, be of durable construction and used in conjunction with pictograms, where recommended.
- The area that the pipe marker is applied to should be clean, dry and free from grease and dirt.
Where to apply pipe markers?

- Air: At frequent intervals on straight pipe runs.
- Fire main: Where pipes pass through floors and walls, mark both sides.
- Gas: Changes in direction.
- Water: Close to valves.

Individual pipe markers

Hydrochloric acid

- Perforated arrowhead on both sides: to indicate the flow direction of the substance; simply remove one of the arrowheads.
- Relevant danger symbols: depending on the substance, in accordance with CLP regulations.
- Colour: in accordance with (local) legislation.
- Substance name: wide range of legible, available, to comply with the country regulations.
- Signal word: depending on the substance, in accordance with CLP regulations.
- High quality materials: self-adhesive laminated polyester with low chlorine content that is resistant to chemical, ultraviolet rays, and extreme weather conditions.

Danger symbols

From 0 and up to 6 different danger symbols can be shown on the pipe marker, depending on the substance and in accordance with the CLP regulation.
Pipeline Identification Chart

(BS 1710:1984)
Airducts labeling

- Hot
- Warm
- Dangerous
- Fresh
- Return
- Contaminated
- Cold
- Conditioned

SPECIFICATIONS

Labels should be placed so that they are visible by the observer (e.g. the technician)