

## Safety Zones and Commonly Used Safety Signs in the Workplace

Safety symbols are required to warn and inform workers of the possible hazards that can cause health issues or injuries. Knowing how to create a safe work zone by making sure the signs are in the right place (appropriate level for people to see/ read, close enough to the hazard and a place where the sign won't fade, be ripped and/ or torn) and educating workers on what each symbol means helps prevent incidents and illnesses, including fatal ones.

Safety cone placement visually communicate hazards by drawing attention, then instructing workers and others in the workplace around certain hazards. Ultimately, workers must be able to see work zone cones to ensure they know exactly where to use various machines and complete many tasks. If a driver sees a cone in front of a trailer, there is most likely



a wash bay attendant cleaning it out. This is considered a best practice in the industry. It lets a driver know to not move the cone and hook up and the driver would then walk around the trailer to find the worker who will let you know when it is safe to hook up.

Barricade tape is in place to keep workers and others safe. It is used to warn or catch the attention of passersby of an area or situation containing a possible hazard. It acts as a minor obstruction to prevent accidental entrance to that area or situation and as a result enhances general safety.

Safety signs plays a large part in keeping facilities compliant, and employees knowledgeable. It is critical for workers to understand the types of hazards in the workplace, the level of risk the hazard presents, and what precautions to take. There may be signs for many types of personal protective equipment is each area of a workplace. Training workers to know what each implies is key to incident prevention.

*Muster Point signs* are present so workers know where to go in case of an emergency evacuation. The location is also to meet to reduce confusion during chaos and identify if anyone is missing, or possibly trapped inside a building.

Emergency Exits are designated doorways out of a building that are for emergency use such as a fire. These exits provide a clear, safe way to evacuate a building in case of an emergency.





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*Pinch Points* could include getting caught between two moving parts of a machinery or between some material and a moving part of a machinery. Pinch points are a hazard that can lead to crushed-by injuries. Having the appropriate signage in the area informs workers of areas in machines where accidents most occur.



Danger Chemical Storage signs is used to indicate warning of a hazard which is likely to be life-threatening so that workers, visitors and first responders take appropriate measures from being harmed by these hazardous materials.

*Slip, trip and floor obstacle hazard signs* will allow you to bring awareness to potential dangers in your facility such as, spills, ice, uneven floors and more.



## Do you need more information? RPM can help!

RPM offers a number of courses related to safety in the workplace, such as

- *Health and Safety Leadership:* This course provides leaders with the knowledge and ability to meet this responsibility according to the applicable provincial, federal legislation and industry best practices. Excellent leaders drive effective worker participation and are critical components in the development and the maintenance of a safety program.
- *Fleet Safety Managers:* The Safety Manager role provides overall support and guidance to all areas of the organization. They coordinate with the leadership team in crafting short- and long-term strategies to build a culture of safety within the organization.
- Safety for Supervisors (self-led): The objective of this course is to ensure supervisors are provided with information, tools and resources to effectively perform their safety and health roles and responsibilities.

Please note RPM courses are offered to RPM registered companies only. Your company must be registered with RPM and be in the process of working towards certification or must have achieved the SAFE Work Manitoba Trucking Certificate of Recognition. Not yet registered in the RPM program? Today is a great day to get started!

Please contact RPM by emailing info@rpmsafety.ca or calling 204-632-6600, or by visiting our website www. rpmsafety.ca