

EVC Signage



VIGIL Omnicare

CARE 2

To complement our EVC systems we produce disabled refuge signs which can be used to indicate refuge areas (information on next page). We are often asked about regulations referring to EVC signage and hope the information here (which is by no means comprehensive) helps.

BS9999:2008 (Annex K, informative): Code of practice for fire safety in the design, management & use of buildings.

- Describes the categories of signs and their use, including, 'means of escape', 'way-guidance', 'first-aid', and so on.
- EVC signs are not directly referred to in any category, possibilities include:
 - "Means of escape signs" (used to assist an effective and efficient evacuation ...).
 - "Way-guidance signs" (assist in identifying routes for specific categories of people - additional to the standard means of escape signs).
 - "Emergency equipment identification signs" (for alarms, emergency telephone..).
 - "Assembly point and safe area signs".
- There is no direct reference to signage for EVC systems in this standard.

BS5839-9:2011 (Clause 11.5e): Fire detection and fire alarm systems for buildings.

BS5839-9: Code of practice for the design, installation, commissioning & maintenance of emergency voice communication systems

- This standard states that disabled refuge outstations should be green in colour "... or otherwise be indicated by means of a green sign conforming to the requirements of BS5499-1."
- There is no other mention of signage in this standard other than in relation to wireless systems, when it calls for instructive signage for PTT outstations.

BS5499: Graphical symbols and signs. Safety signs, including fire safety signs.

BS5499-1:2002: Specification for geometric shapes, colours and layout

- In the "Terms & Definitions" a 'safe condition sign' is a "safety sign that indicates a safety action, the location of safety equipment or a safety facility, or an escape route".
- A 'safe condition sign' should be rectangular (square or oblong) and green in colour with a white border and white symbols/text.
- The standard details the layout, including border size and type of font that should be used, and provides general guidance on size (in relation to viewing distance/lighting). (Refers to BS5499-4 for the positioning of escape route signs).
- BS5499-5 (then BS8501, PD6578 or ISO6309) should be referred to for appropriate graphical symbols.
- Each safety sign shall be used to convey a single message.

BS5499-4:2000: Code of practice for escape route signing

- Advises on the use of appropriate graphic symbols, text and the use of arrows on escape route signs.
- Assumes that an assessment of escape routes and the need for escape route signing has been made. BS5499-4 does not stipulate if or when escape route signs are required. (Comment) The building assessment may highlight the need for an EVC system. At this point relevant signs should also be considered.

- Details positioning of escape route signs. The point here that could be considered relevant to EVC systems is “signs should not be fixed to doors or sited where they may be obscured by opening doors.”
- Mounting heights (for escape route signs) are provided and for wall mounted signs these should be placed between 1.7-2.0m (please note, however, that the recommended mounting height for a disabled refuge station is 0.9-1.2m).



BVOCLAB1
(Supplied with every control panel)



BVOCLAB2

BS5499-5:2002:

Signs with specific safety meanings

- Wheelchair symbol (white on a green background) is a 'determinant' - used as an element with other graphical symbols.
- Emergency telephone location - image of a (white) telephone handset on a green background - safe condition sign.
- Fire telephone location - image of a (white) telephone handset and 'flame' on a red background - fire equipment sign.
- There is no other relevant reference for EVC systems.



BVOCLAB3



BVOCLAB4
(Supplied with stainless steel disabled refuge remotes)

Signage specification:

Product Code	Description	Material	Size
BVOCLAB1	'Refuge Point' sign	Self-adhesive vinyl	348 mm x 248 mm
BVOCLAB2	'These premises have...'	Self-adhesive vinyl	348 mm x 248 mm
BVOCLAB3	'Keep clear. Refuge point' sign	Self-adhesive vinyl	348 mm x 248 mm
BVOCLAB4	'Refuge point' sign	Self-adhesive vinyl	120 mm x 120 mm
BVOCLAB5	'Refuge point' rigid sign	3mm Aluminium composite	148 mm x 210 mm (A5)



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