













Pipeline Identification Colours

5.4.2

The Use of Colour for Identifying Pipes

Colour identification of pipelines is extensively used as a means of avoiding hazards that may arise from ignorance of the contents of a pipeline system. Pipelines can either be painted completely in the identifying colour with or without bands of a supplementary colour, or they can be regularly banded with the identifying colour. Pipeline identification colours are referenced to colour standards listed in **Australian Standard 2700** or **British Standard 381C**.

	Service	Application Examples	Australian Standard AS2700*	British Standard BS381C
	Water	Water for drinking, cooling, heating, storm, recycling, hydraulic power supply and waste (but not sewage).	Jade - G21 [Emerald - G13, Shamrock - G23]	Green - No. 228
	Steam	Steam for processes, exhaust and space heating	Silver Grey - N24	-
	Oils, flammable & combustible liquids.	Oils for fuel and lubrication. Edible oils for food processing. Petrol, diesel and other low boiling fuels. Other flammable and combustible liquids.	Golden Tan - X53 [Tan - X51, Brown - X54, Nut Brown - X55]	Brown - No. 414
	Gases	Either gaseous or liquefied under pressure. Vapours, dusts (air excluded), fuels, and process gases. Not corrosive gases.	Sand - Y44 [Straw - Y24, Sandstone - Y53, Raffia - X31, Biscuit - X42]	Light Beige - No. 366
	Acids & alkalis	All corrosive liquids and gases.	Lilac - P23	Violet - No. 797
	Air	Air under compression or vacuum. Air for instruments, ventilation, pneumatic conveyor.	Aqua - B25 [Bluebell - B41]	Light Blue - No. 112
	Other Liquids	Chemical mixtures, either water borne or solvent borne, liquid foodstuffs. Sewerage and organic, chemical and process wastes.	Black - N61	-
	Fire Services	Dedicated fire-extinguishing supply lines.	Signal Red - R13 [Scarlet - R12, Waratah - R14]	Red - No. 537
	Electric Power	Electricity supply circuits	Orange - X15 Marigold - X13	Orange - No. 557
	Communication	Telephone and other communication circuits. Extra low voltage supply	White - N14	-
	Dangerous Materials	Pipes containing hazards such as ionizing radiation or biologically hazardous material.	Golden Yellow - Y14 [Wattle - Y12, Vivid Yellow - Y13, Sunflower - Y15] with black markings †	Golden Yellow - No. 356, with Black markings
	Fresh/Potable water & Foodstuffs	Specifically for materials for human consumption.	Harbour Blue - B24 [Mid Blue - B15, Ultramarine - B21, Bright Blue - B23]	Strong Blue - No. 107

* The preferred colour is shown in **Bold** type. Acceptable alternative colours shown in square brackets.

† Please refer to symbols overleaf.

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Use of Contrast Symbols to Denote Hazards

The symbols below are used to identify the type of hazard contained within the pipe.



General Hazard



Ionizing Radiation Symbol



Biological Hazard Symbol

Standard pipeline colours above are laid down in **Australian Standard 1345-1995** (S.A.A. Code for the Identification of Piping). Please refer to the latest copy of this Standard for further information regarding pipelines, colours, hazardous materials, lettering and banding. Copies of this publication are readily available from Standards Australia situated in all capital cities or SAI Global, the distributors of all Standards Australia publications.

For more information on the painting of pipelines and tanks, both exterior and interior, please contact the Dulux Protective Coatings Technical Consultant in your state.