



ANSI Z535.5-2007

American National Standard

**Safety Tags and
Barricade Tapes
(for Temporary Hazards)**

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Revision of
ANSI Z535.5 2002

American National Standard
Safety Tags and Barricade Tapes (for Temporary Hazards)

Secretariat:

National Electrical Manufacturers Association

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Foreword (Neither this foreword nor any of the informative annexes is a part of American National Standard Z535.5-2007.)

In 1979, the ANSI Z53 Committee on Safety Colors was combined with the ANSI Z35 Committee on Safety Signs to form the ANSI Z535 Committee on Safety Signs and Colors. This committee has the following scope:

To develop standards for the design, application, and use of signs, colors and symbols intended to identify and warn against specific hazards and for other accident prevention purposes.

Five subcommittees were created and assigned the tasks of updating the ANSI Z53 and Z35 Standards, and writing new standards. The five standards include:

- ANSI Z535.1, Safety Color Code
[ANSI Z54.1-1979 was updated and combined into this standard in 1991]
- ANSI Z535.2, Environmental and Facility Safety Sign
[ANSI Z35.1-1972 and Z35.4-1972 were updated and combined into this standard in 1991]
- ANSI Z535.3, Criteria for Safety Symbols [new in 1991]
- ANSI Z535.4, Product Safety Signs and Labels [new in 1991]
- ANSI Z535.5, Accident Prevention Tags (For Temporary Hazards)
[ANSI Z35.2-1974 was updated and combined into this standard in 1991]

In 2002 the Z535 Committee changed the title of Z535.5 to:

- ANSI Z535.5, Safety Tags and Barricade Tapes (for Temporary Hazards).

In 2002, the Z535 Committee voted to form a new subcommittee, ANSI Z535.6. The purpose of this new subcommittee is to develop a standard to complement the existing Z535 standards by dealing with various aspects of the provision of safety information in collateral materials. The new standard was published in 2006.

- ANSI Z535.6, Product Safety Information in Product Manuals, Instructions, and Other Collateral Materials [new in 2006]

In 2006, the title of Z535.1 was changed to:

- ANSI Z535.1, Safety Colors.

Together, these six standards contain the information needed to specify formats, colors, and symbols for safety signs that are used in environmental and facility applications (Z535.2), for product applications (Z535.4), for temporary safety tags and barricade tapes (Z535.5) and for safety information in product accompanying literature (Z535.6).

This standard was prepared by Subcommittee Z535.5 on Safety Tags and Barricade Tapes (for Temporary Hazards).

This foreword and all of the Annexes are considered to be informative and are not an official part of this standard. In the vocabulary of writing standards, the word "informative" is meant to convey that the information presented is for informational purposes only and is not considered to be mandatory in nature. The body of this standard is "normative," meaning that this information is considered to be mandatory.

The first version of this standard was made available to the public in 1992. Recognizing the differences between environmental and on-product safety signs, the standard focused on how to carry forward the requirements for hazard alerting stated in both the ANSI Z535.2 Standard and the ANSI Z535.4 Standard through the media of safety tags. In the 1998 and 2002 revisions notable changes included the format of signal word panels. The format of these panels is now uniform across the ANSI Z535.2, ANSI Z535.4, and ANSI Z535.5 Standards and most closely resembles the format originally used in ANSI Z535.4. In 2002, requirements and guidelines for the design of safety barricade tapes were introduced.

In the 2006 Revision, Annex C was added to provide assistance in selecting a signal word, and Annex D was created to separate the normative references from the informative references.

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Accredited Standards Committee on Safety Signs and Colors, ANSI Z535. Committee approval of this standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, the Z535 Committee had the following members:

Gary M. Bell, Chairperson

Richard Olesen, Vice Chair

Paul Orr, Secretary

<i>Organization Represented:</i>	<i>Name of Representative:</i>
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American Welding Society	August F. Manz
Applied Materials	Edward Karl Carl Wong (Alt.)
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Association for Manufacturing Technology	David Felinski
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Subcommittee Z535.5 on Safety Tags and Barricade Tapes (for Temporary Hazards), which developed this standard, had the following members:

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Paul Orr, Secretary

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Gary Bell
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Safety Tags and Barricade Tapes (for Temporary Hazards)

1 Introduction

Safety tags and barricade tapes are a means of alerting persons to temporary hazards often associated with construction, equipment installation, maintenance, repair, lockout, or other transient conditions. This standard provides guidance for the design, completion, and installation of accident prevention tags and the design of barricade tapes. It employs the graphic principles set forth in ANSI Z535.4-2007, *Product Safety Signs and Labels* and ANSI Z535.2-2006, *Environmental and Facility Safety Signs*.

Sometimes the actions required to avoid the hazard or the consequences of not avoiding the hazard are not obvious to the viewer from the context in which the tag or tape is used. In such situations training, additional messages, or the use of safety symbols on the tag or tape should be used to provide this information. To achieve these objectives, it is most important to have an easily recognizable and highly conspicuous hazard communication system such as is presented in this document.

This standard sets forth a hazard communication system that uses different signal words and colors to distinguish between levels of hazards. Use of this standard will allow observers of safety tags and tapes to determine the type and degree of hazards and take appropriate actions to avoid injury.

The ultimate application of safety tags and barricade tapes will be up to those responsible for affixing these messages. This standard is intended to provide specifications for safety tags and barricade tapes to convey a safety message that is clearly and readily understood regardless of the viewers' background. In certain areas of the country where languages other than English are primarily used, consideration may need to be given to providing messages in other languages.

This standard sets forth a hazard communication system that is designed to complement the ANSI Z535.4-2007 and ANSI Z535.2-2007 standards. While all of these standards are similar in many respects, they each address different physical and visual requirements. As a result, the Accredited Standards Committee Z535 has recognized and affirmed the need for these separate standards.

2 Scope and purpose

2.1 Scope

Safety tags and barricade tapes shall be used to identify a temporary hazard. They shall be used only until such time as the identified hazard is eliminated or the hazardous operation is completed. For example, a safety tag would be appropriate for use during lock-out/tag-out procedures or use on a damaged tool until the tool can be properly removed from the work area. A barricade tape would be suitable to mark an area affected by a chemical spill or an open and temporary trench.

Safety tags or barricade tapes shall not be used in place of a permanent sign or label intended for hazards in normal use, operation, or maintenance. However, if a permanent sign or label is presented in a tag configuration or a hang tag is used to supplement a permanent safety sign, the safety tag should comply with the provisions of ANSI Z535.4-2007 or ANSI Z535.2-2007.

While this standard addresses safety tags and barricade tapes for temporary hazards, other tags or tape types are not addressed by this standard. For example, underground tapes, permanent tapes, striped tapes and non-skid tapes are not covered by this standard.