

EXPLOSIVES HAZARDS

Fact Sheet No 4: Fire Division Markings

To enable the emergency services to implement an appropriate plan in an emergency involving explosives, it is vital that the hazard presented by the explosives can be easily identified from a safe distance. Four standard fire division symbols are used for this purpose. Each building should be clearly identified by the fire division symbol appropriate to the Explosive Type present in the building or location. If more than one explosive hazard type may be present, a combination of symbols may be used.

The symbols are as follows:

Fire Division 1



Explosives indicated by these symbols must be expected to explode "en masse" very soon after the fire reaches them.

Fire Division 2



Explosives indicated by these symbols do not explode "en masse". They have a projectile hazard and some may explode on impact.

Fire Division 3



Explosives indicated by these symbols must be expected to burn with great violence, emitting considerable thermal radiation, without necessarily exploding.

Fire Division 4



Explosives indicated by these symbols do not greatly contribute to a fire and effects are mainly confined within the package.

Fire division symbols must be kept clean, and clear of vegetation, so that they can be seen and read from the designated safe distance.