



## ELECTRIC SIGNS AND OUTLINE LIGHTING

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### ALL ELECTRICAL SIGNS MUST BE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE 2007 CALIFORNIA ELECTRICAL CODE

#### **600.4 MARKINGS.**

**600.4(a) Signs and Outline Lighting Systems.** Shall be marked with the manufacturer's name, trademark, or other means of identification; and input voltage and current rating.

**600.4(b) With Incandescent Lamp Holders.** Signs & outline lighting systems with incandescent lamp holders shall be marked to indicate the maximum allowable wattage of lamps. The markings shall be permanently installed, in letters at least ¼" high, and shall be visible during re-lamping.

#### **600.5 BRANCH CIRCUITS.**

**600.5(a) Required Branch Circuit.** Each commercial building and each commercial occupancy accessible to pedestrians shall be provided with at least one outlet in an accessible location at each entrance to each tenant space for sign or outline lighting system use. The outlet(s) shall be supplied by a branch circuit rated at least 20 amperes that supplies no other load.

*\*\*\* Exception: Service hallways or corridors shall not be considered accessible to pedestrians.*

#### **600.5(b) Rating.**

- 1) Circuits that supply signs and outline lighting systems containing incandescent, fluorescent and high-intensity-discharge forms of illumination shall be rated not to exceed 20 amperes.
- 2) Circuits that only supply neon-tubing installations shall not be rated in excess of 30 amperes.

**600.5(c) Wiring Methods.** Wiring Methods used to supply signs shall comply with 600.5(c)(1), (c)(2), and (c)(3).

#### **600.6 DISCONNECTS.**

Each sign and outline lighting system shall be controlled by an externally operable switch or circuit breaker that will open all ungrounded conductors. Signs and outline lighting systems located within fountains shall have the disconnect located in accordance with 680.12.

**600.6(a)(1) Location.** The disconnecting means shall be within sight of the sign or outline lighting system that it controls. If it is out of the line of sight from any section that is able to be energized, the disconnecting means shall be capable of being locked in the open position.

**600.7 GROUNDING.** Signs and metal equipment of outline lighting systems shall be grounded.

**600.8 ENCLOSURES.** Live parts, other than lamps, and neon tubing shall be enclosed. Transformers and power supplies provided with an integral enclosure, including a primary and secondary circuit splice enclosure, shall not require an additional enclosure.

**600.8(a) Strength.** Enclosures shall have ample structural strength and rigidity.

**600.8(b) Material.** Sign and outline lighting system enclosures shall be constructed of metal or shall be listed.

**600.8(c) Minimum Thickness of Enclosure Metal.** Sheet copper or aluminum shall be at least 0.020 in. thick. Sheet steel shall be at least 0.016 in. thick.

**600.8(d) Protection of Metal.** Metal parts of equipment shall be protected from corrosion.

**600.9 LOCATION.**

**600.9(a) Vehicles.** Sign or outline lighting system equipment shall be at least 14 feet above areas accessible to vehicles unless protected from physical damage.

**600.9(b) Pedestrians.** Neon tubing, other than dry-location portable signs, readily accessible to pedestrians shall be protected from physical damage.

**600.9(c) Adjacent to Combustible Materials.** Signs and outline lighting systems shall be installed so that adjacent combustible materials are not subjected to temperatures in excess of 90 degrees C (194 degrees F).

**600.9(d) Wet Location.** Signs and outline lighting system equipment for wet location use shall be weatherproof and have drain holes, as necessary, in accordance with the following:

- 1) Drain holes shall not be larger than ½ in. or smaller than ¼ in.
- 2) Every low point or isolated section of the equipment shall have at least one drain hole.
- 3) Drain holes shall be positioned such that there will be no external obstructions.

**600.10 PORTABLE OR MOBILE SIGNS.**

**600.10(a) Support.** Portable or mobile signs shall be adequately supported and readily movable without the use of tools.

**600.10(b) Attachment Plug.** An attachment plug shall be provided for each portable or mobile sign.

**600.10(c) Wet or Damp Location.** Portable or mobile signs in wet or damp locations shall comply with 600.10(c)(1) and (c)(2).

*This information is from Chapter 6, Special Equipment: Article 600, Electric Signs and Outline Lighting. Please consult this section for complete requirements.*