

General Application Regulations 2007

Part G of Schedule 9 – Acoustic signs

1. Intrinsic features

1.1. Acoustic signals shall:

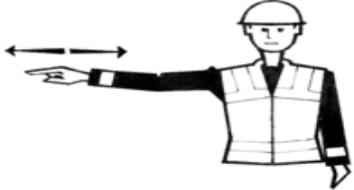
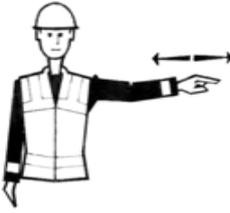
- (a) have a sound level which is considerably higher than the level of ambient noise, so that it is audible without being excessive or painful, and
- (b) be easily recognisable, particularly in terms of pulse length and the interval between pulses or groups of pulses, and be clearly distinct from any other acoustic signal and ambient noises.

1.2. If a device can emit an acoustic signal at variable and constant frequencies, the variable frequency shall be used to indicate a higher level of danger or a more urgent need for the requested or imposed intervention or action in relation to the stable frequency.

2. Code

The signal for evacuation shall be continuous.

| Meaning | Description | Illustration |
|--|--|---|
| <i>A. General signals</i> | | |
| <i>START</i> <i>Attention</i> <i>Start of command</i> | <i>Both arms are extended horizontally with the palms facing forward</i> |  |
| <i>STOP</i> <i>Interruption</i> <i>End of movement</i> | <i>The right arm points upwards with the palm facing forward</i> |  |
| <i>END</i> <i>Of the operation</i> | <i>Both hands are clasped at chest height</i> |  |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <i>B. Vertical movements</i> | | |
| <i>RAISE</i> | <i>The right arm points upwards with the palm facing forward and slowly makes a circle</i> |  |
| <i>LOWER</i> | <i>The right arm points downwards with the palm facing inwards and slowly makes a circle</i> |  |
| <i>VERTICLE DISTANCE</i> | <i>The hands indicate the relevant distance</i> |  |
| <i>C. Horizontal movements</i> | | |
| <i>MOVE FORWARDS</i> | <i>Both arms are bent with the palms facing upwards, and the forearms make slow movements towards the body</i> |  |
| <i>MOVE BACKWARDS</i> | <i>Both arms are bent with the palms facing downwards, and the forearms make slow movements away from the body</i> |  |
| <i>RIGHT</i> <i>To the signaller's right</i> | <i>The right arm is extended more or less horizontally with the palm facing downwards and slowly makes small movements to the right</i> |  |
| <i>LEFT</i> <i>To the signaller's left</i> | <i>The left arm is extended more or less horizontally with the palm facing downwards and slowly makes small movements to the left</i> |  |
| <i>HORIZONTAL DISTANCE</i> | <i>The hands indicate the relevant distance</i> |  |
| <i>D. Danger</i> | | |
| <i>DANGER</i> <i>Emergency stop</i> | <i>Both arms point upwards with the palms facing forwards</i> |  |
| <i>QUICK</i> | <i>All movements faster</i> | |
| <i>SLOW</i> | <i>All movements slower</i> | |

Part H of Schedule 9 – Verbal communication

Verbal communication between a speaker or emitter and one or more hearers must take the form of short texts, phrases, groups of words or individual words.

Spoken messages must be short, simple and clear as possible and in a language understood by the persons involved.

Verbal communication may be direct (by means of the human voice) or indirect (by means of a human or artificial voice which is broadcast by whatever means is appropriate).

1. Intrinsic features

1.1. Verbal communication between a speaker or emitter and one or more hearers shall take the form of (sometimes coded) short texts, phrases, groups of words or individual words.

1.2. Spoken messages shall be short, simple and clear as possible and in a language understood by the persons involved; the verbal skills of the speaker and the hearing abilities of hearers shall be such as to ensure reliable verbal communication.

1.3. Verbal communication may be direct (by means of the human voice) or indirect (by means of a human or artificial voice which is broadcast by whatever means is appropriate).

2. Specific rules governing use

2.1. The persons involved must have a good knowledge of the language used so that they are able to pronounce and understand the spoken message correctly and consequently behave in a way which is appropriate to safety or health (or both).

2.2. If verbal communication is used instead of or together with gestures, code words should be used such as:

- *‘start’ to indicate the start of a command*
- *‘stop’ to interrupt or end a movement*
- *‘end’ to stop the operation*
- *‘raise’ to have a load raised*
- *‘lower’ to have a load lowered*
- *‘forwards’ to be coordinated with the corresponding hand signals*
- *‘backwards’ to be coordinated with the corresponding hand signals*
- *‘right’ to be coordinated with the corresponding hand signal*
- *‘left’ to be coordinated with the corresponding hand signals*
- *‘danger’ for an emergency stop*
- *‘quickly’ to speed up a movement for safety reasons.*

Part I of Schedule 9 — Hand Signals

1. Features:

1.1 Hand signals shall be precise, simple, expansive, easy to make and to understand, and clearly distinct from other such signals.

1.2 Where both arms are used at the same time, they shall be moved symmetrically and for giving one sign only.

1.3 Without prejudice to other codes applicable at European Union level, used for the same manoeuvres in certain sectors, hand signals used shall be consistent with any relevant code of practice.

2. Specific rules governing use:

2.1. The person giving the signs, hereinafter referred to as the “signaller”, shall use arm or hand movements to give manoeuvring instructions to the person receiving the signs, hereinafter referred to as the “operator”.

2.2. The signaller shall be able to monitor all manoeuvres visually without being endangered thereby.

2.3. The signaller’s duties shall consist exclusively of directing manoeuvres and ensuring the safety of persons in the vicinity.

2.4. If the conditions described in paragraph 2.2. are not fulfilled, one or more extra signallers shall be deployed.

2.5. The operator shall interrupt the ongoing manoeuvre in order to request new instructions if unable to carry out the orders received with the necessary safety guarantees.

2.6. Accessories:

2.6.1. The operator shall be able to recognise the signaller without difficulty.

2.6.2. The signaller shall wear one or more appropriate distinctive items, e.g. jacket, helmet, sleeves or armbands, or carry bats.

2.6.3. The distinctive items shall be brightly coloured, preferably all of the same colour and for the exclusive use of signallers.