



KERNERSVILLE FIRE RESCUE

Fire Marshal's Office

Post Office Drawer 728 • Kernersville, North Carolina 27285-0728

National Fire Protection Association Pamphlet 704 Identification Of Hazardous Materials For Emergency Response

This document is to provide guidelines for the marking of buildings and stationary tanks with NFPA 704 Signs. The enforcement of this standard is in conjunction with Section 2703.5 (Hazard Identification Signs) of the North Carolina Fire Code.

I. SCOPE:

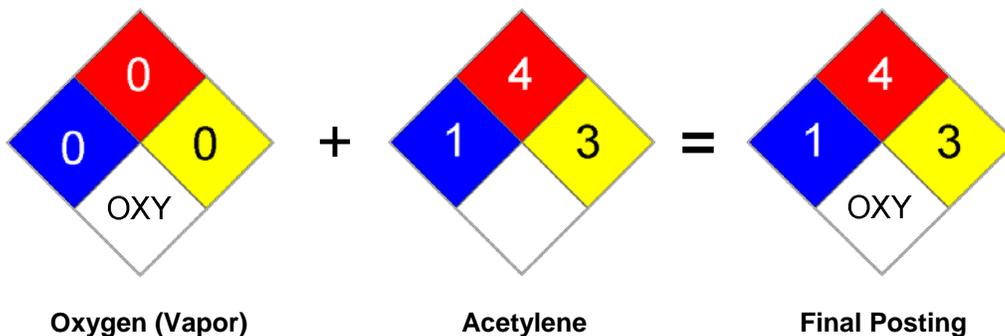
This standard, in conjunction with NFPA Pamphlet 704 latest edition, shall address the health, flammability, instability, and related hazards that are presented by short term, acute exposure to a material under conditions of fire, spill, or similar emergencies.

II. PURPOSE:

The purpose of this standard is to provide identification of fire hazard and to placard all businesses that have storage where certain minimum quantity of hazard material exists.

III. LOCATION:

1. The identification placard shall be located on the outside of buildings and/or storage tanks in locations deemed appropriate by fire department staff. Inside placarding shall be required when chemicals are segregated into separate areas.
2. The material safety data sheet (MSDS) should have the information on hazard ratings to be used for each material. Emergency Management staff shall approve the placard numbering.
3. The acceptable sizes of NFP A 704 signs are:
 - a. 12 inches on each side with 6-inch symbol for **interior posting**
 - b. 24 inches on each side with 12-inch symbols for **exterior posting**
4. Letters shall be a minimum of four (4) inches high by three (3) inches wide by 5/8-inch stroke (exterior postings). Numbers placed within the blue and red areas shall be white in color. Numbers/Letters placed in the yellow and white areas shall be black in color.
5. The number or symbol indication in each colored category shall reflect the most severe hazard associated with any hazardous materials at the business or in the area indicated by the posting.



6. If the property is fenced, all access points must be posted immediately adjacent to the gate. Posting on fences shall be plainly visible and readable from the nearest public access point.
7. Gasoline stations that handle only motor vehicle fuels stored in underground storage tanks are exempt from posting.
8. Businesses that contain Bulk Liquefied Carbon Dioxide tanks for soda fountains shall be enforced by this guideline. Businesses that contain Vaporous Carbon Dioxide gas and no other hazardous materials are exempt from posting signs.
9. Any business with a **NFPA 704 rating of 2-3-3 or above** will be required to install an approved key box vault on the premises, which would contain business keys and a business plan.

IV. QUANTITIES:

Placarding shall be required when the following quantities on site, at anyone time, equal or exceed the following. The Fire Code Official may, at their discretion due to extreme hazards, require a placard (chemicals that blind, suffocate, etc below reportable amounts)

- 55 gallons of hazardous material
- 500 pounds of a hazardous material
- 200 cubic feet of flammable gases
- 25 pounds of cellulose nitrate
- 10 gallons of organic peroxides
- All class I and class II explosives (Law enforcement exempt)
- Threshold planning Quantities for extremely hazardous substances

