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**SANS 10140-3:2017**

Edition 3.1

# **SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL STANDARD**

## **Identification colour markings**

### **Part 3: Contents of pipelines**

**WARNING**

**This document references other documents normatively.**

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**Table of changes**

<b>Change No.</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Scope</b>
Amdt 1	2017	Amended to update the introduction and referenced standards.

**Foreword**

This South African standard was prepared by National Committee SABS/TC 058, *Vessels and systems under pressure*, in accordance with procedures of the South African Bureau of Standards, in compliance with annex 3 of the WTO/TBT agreement.

This document was approved for publication in December 2017.

This document supersedes SANS 10140-3:2003 (edition 3).

A vertical line in the margin shows where the text has been technically modified by amendment No. 1.

**Compliance with this document cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.**

**Introduction**

In a multilingual country such as South Africa, it makes good sense to try to arrive at a common "language" to serve both as an identification of the contents of specific pipelines and as a warning. This "language" usually appears on the pipe in the form of a pipeline colour coding system or a written identification of the contents (descriptive code indicator) or, where possible, both.

When such a pipeline content identification system is being developed, cognizance should be taken of the following:

- There are so many different kinds of chemicals or products transferred by pipeline throughout industry, the mines, commerce, government and the private sector that it is impossible to cater for all these chemicals and products in a universal pipeline colour coding system. It has therefore been decided to cater for certain basic, commonly used pipeline contents only.
- The colour coding system has to be uniformly applied and used throughout all premises of a firm. This is of extreme importance, especially if the firm introduces ancillary colour coding systems over and above the basic system set out in this part of SANS 10140, in order to cater for their specific needs. Such a site-specific ancillary pipeline colour coding system should be consistent within the premises.
- It is imperative that those who carry out work involving, or in the vicinity of, a group of pipelines be trained to understand the colour coding system from induction training to ongoing training and toolbox discussions. Identifying and assisting any colour-blind workers are also important facets of this training.
- Premises should have on display a pipeline content colour identification chart or board relevant to their installation. This can be used as a visual aid in training, and also as a daily reminder of the colour representing the contents of pipelines.
- When job cards, work permits and the like in respect of pipework are being written out, mention of the pipeline content and its specific colour code would assist those who are to carry out the work.
- If the methodology set out in this part of SANS 10140 is followed, not only will efficiency be improved, since the correct pipeline will be operated the first time each time, but accidents through incorrect identification will also be minimized.

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- The number of colour identifications in the field of vision of workers should be kept to the minimum. This will avoid confusion and fatigue, and place greater emphasis on the markings that are finally used.
- The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has published recommendations regarding the use of colour codes. The range and application of the colours given in this part of SANS 10140 are largely based on these recommendations.
- Colour shades and numbering should conform to SANS 1091.
- Deleted by amendment No. 1.