



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

Federal Aviation  
Administration

# Advisory Circular

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**Subject:** SPECIFICATION FOR RUNWAY  
AND TAXIWAY SIGNS

**Date:** DRAFT

**AC No:** 150/5345-44J

**Initiated by:** AAS-100

**Change:**

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**1. PURPOSE.** This advisory circular (AC) contains the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) specifications for unlighted and lighted signs to be used on taxiways and runways.

**2. EFFECTIVE DATE.** Effective six months after the issue date of this AC, only that equipment qualified in accordance with the specifications herein will be listed in accordance with AC 150/5345-53, *Airport Lighting Equipment Certification Program*.

**3. CANCELLATION.** AC 150/5345-44H, *Specification for Runway and Taxiway Signs*, dated September 28, 2007, is cancelled. [Revision letter "I" is intentionally omitted.](#)

**4. APPLICATION.** The FAA recommends the guidelines and standards in this AC for all applications involving development of this nature. This AC does not constitute a regulation and in general is not mandatory. However, use of these guidelines is mandatory for runway and taxiway signs funded under the Airport Improvement Program (AIP) or Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) Program. Mandatory terms such as “must” apply only to those using AIP or PFC funds for such projects and/or to those who intend to meet this specification for any other reason.

**5. PRINCIPAL CHANGES.** The following principal changes are incorporated:

- a. [Paragraph 1.2.1 – added clarification of the requirements for black outlined characters; clarification of the L-858L sign border and margin with reference to figure; inclusion of arresting gear marker signs.](#)
- b. [Paragraph 1.2.2 – added clarification of sign panel dimensions with tolerance; a note is added to state that the sign size is determined by the legend panel and is not an overall dimension for the sign.](#)
- c. [Paragraph 1.2.6 – definitions are added for the terminology used within the Advisory Circular.](#)
- d. [Paragraph 3.2.5.2 – clarification is added to prevent overly long signs; clarification of horizontal spacing/separation requirements between message elements; spacing between words or groups of characters requirements are added.](#)
- e. [Paragraph 3.2.5.3f – tethering requirements for modular signs are clarified.](#)
- f. [Paragraph 3.2.5.4.1 – to clarify sign borders for L-858L signs, the "edge" of a sign is further defined to mean the inner edge of a sign. Manufacturing tolerances are added.](#)
- g. [Paragraph 3.2.5.4.2 – a manufacturing tolerance is added.](#)
- h. [Paragraph 3.2.5.5k – the point of measurement for sign power factor is clarified to be at the isolation transformer primary power leads at all current steps.](#)

- i. Paragraph 3.2.5.8d – clarification of the requirements prohibiting above ground sign power connections are added.
- j. Paragraph 3.2.5.9 – sign requirements for “flicker” are modified to include stabilization time of the constant current regulator.
- k. Paragraph 3.2.5.10 – A4 or 316 stainless steel hardware is added. Requirement for replacement OEM sign materials and parts is modified.
- l. Paragraph 4.1.1.3.4 – To reduce the possibility of a visually apparent non-uniform luminance (bright and dim areas) over the sign face, changes are made to the method of measurement.
- m. Paragraph 4.1.1.9 – additional requirements are added to the power factor test to include measuring power factor at the primary winding of the isolation transformer and resistively loading the constant current regulator used for the test.
- n. Appendix A, Figure 6, Note (c) – updated to include the inner edge of the sign as a point of measurement. Additional clarification for arrow spacing measurements is added.
- o. Appendix A Table 2, Table 3, and Table 7 are deleted. The letter and numeral code lookup tables are replaced with new tables (Table 2 through 6) that are organized by sign size. Each table now has letter to letter and letter to numeral spacing requirements within the table in a fractional format with a tolerance of 1/4-inch. Finding and cross-referencing letter and numeral spacing codes is no longer necessary.
- p. Appendix A, Tables 7 – 9: A tolerance is added.
- q. Appendix A, Table 10 title now includes the information previously in Table 11 for unlighted signs. An additional note is added to clarify measurement points. Manufacturing tolerances are added as well as additional clarifications for sign borders.
- r. Appendix B, Table 12, Note (a) is updated to include the physical outside edge of the sign. Tolerance is added.
- s. Appendix C, Figure 11 is updated to remove the black sign frame lip and define sign inside and outside edges. .
- t. Appendix C, Figure 12 is updated to remove white spaces between the L-858L and L-858R signs.
- u. Appendix G is updated to allow a taxiway ending marker to be a lighted sign.
- v. Appendix H is added for an illustration of a typical sign and the identification of its component parts
- w. Appendix I, Figure 19 is added to illustrate letter “M” black outline.

**6. METRIC UNITS.** To promote an orderly transition to metric units, this specification includes both “English” and “Metric” dimensions. The metric conversions may not be exact equivalents and until there is an official changeover to the metric system the English dimensions will govern.

**7. COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS** for improvements to this AC should be sent to:

Manager, Airport Engineering Division  
Federal Aviation Administration  
ATTN: AAS-100  
800 Independence Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, DC 20591

**8. COPIES OF THIS AC.** The Office of Airport Safety and Standards is in the process of making ACs available to the public through the Internet. These ACs may be found through the FAA home page ([www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov)). A printed copy of this AC and other ACs can be ordered from the U.S. Department of Transportation, Subsequent Distribution Office, Ardmore East Business Center, 3341 Q 75th Avenue, Landover, MD 20785.

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## SECTION 1. SCOPE AND CLASSIFICATION.

### 1.1 Scope.

This AC presents the requirements for both lighted and unlighted signs used on airport taxiways and runways. Section 6 allows for a dot matrix presentation of an L-858B sign. Section 7 allows the use of alternative lighting devices (ALD).

### 1.2 Classification.

Six types of signs are specified in any of five sizes, five styles, and two classes, with any exceptions noted.

#### 1.2.1 Types of Signs.

The following types of signs are part of this specification:

a. Type L-858Y Direction, Destination, and Boundary signs - black legend on a yellow background. See Appendix C for examples of typical signs.

b. Type L-858R Mandatory Instruction sign – 3/4-inch (19 mm)  $\pm$  1/8-inch (3.2 mm) black outline on outside edge of white legend on a red background (see Appendix C for examples of typical lighted and unlighted signs).

**NOTE:** *The black outline is considered as background and does not add to the spacing to the next character or border. The black outline on the chevron portion of the “M” must be cut off horizontally in line with the adjacent leg of the letter (see Appendix I, Figure 19).*

c. Type L-858L Taxiway Location signs - yellow legend and border on a black background. The yellow border is inset from the inner edge of the sign to provide a continuous black margin. See Appendix C, Figure 11, for an example of a typical sign.

d. Type L-858B Runway Distance Remaining sign - white legend on a black background. See Appendix F, Figure 15.

**NOTE:** *The L-858B, Size 4, sign is also used as a basis for Arresting Gear Markers (AGM) per FAA AC 150/5220-9A. See AC 150/5220-9A for additional information about the sign.*

e. Type L-858Ba dot matrix Runway Distance Remaining sign - white legend on a black background (see section 6). See Appendix F, Figure 15.

f. Type L-858C Taxiway Ending Marker sign, yellow 45 degree diagonal stripes on a black background. See Appendix G, Figures 16 and 17.

g. Type L-858H One-Half Distance Remaining Sign – white legend on a black background. See Appendix E, Figure 14.

**NOTE:** *Type L-858H signs must not be used in combination with L-858B signs.*

### 1.2.2 Sizes of Sign Legend Panels.

The following sign legend panel sizes are part of this AC:

**NOTE:** *The sign size is dependent on the vertical dimensions of the viewable legend panel and is not an overall dimension for the sign. A manufacturing tolerance of  $\pm 1$  in. (25.4 mm) applies to all sign panel sizes. See Table 1 for overall sign dimensions.*

- a. Size 1 \* 18 inch (in.) (457 millimeters (mm)) legend panel with a 12 in. (305 mm) legend.
- b. Size 2 \* 24 in. (610 mm) legend panel with a 15 in. (381 mm) legend.
- c. Size 3 \* 30 in. (762 mm) legend panel with an 18 in. (457 mm) legend.
- d. Size 4 \*\* 48 in. (1219 mm) legend panel with a 40 in. (1016 mm) legend.
- e. Size 5 \*\* 30 in. (762 mm) legend panel with a 25 in. (635 mm) legend.
- \* Applicable only to Types L-858R, L-858Y, and L-858L.
- \*\* Applicable to Types L-858B, L-858Ba.
- f. L-858H, One-Half Distance Remaining Sign, is Size 5 only.
- g. L-858C, Taxiway Ending Marker, is size 1,2, and 3 with a 48.0 in. (1219 mm) or 72.0 in. (1.8 meter) maximum overall length (see Appendix G for examples).

### 1.2.3 Styles of Signs.

Signs of the following styles are part of this AC:

- a. Style 1 – powered from a 120 volt AC power source.
- b. Style 2 – powered from a series lighting circuit of 4.8 to 6.6 amperes (A).
- c. Style 3 – powered from a series lighting circuit of 2.8 to 6.6 A or 8.5 to 20 A.
- d. Style 4 – unlighted signs - applicable only to Type L-858C, L-858R, L-858Y, L-858L, and L-858H.
- e. Style 5 – powered from a series lighting circuit of 5.5 A.

### 1.2.4 Classes of Signs.

Lighted signs of the following classes are part of this AC:

- a. Class 1 – operation from -4 degrees Fahrenheit (F) (-20 degrees Celsius (C)) to 131 degrees F (55 degrees C) environment.
- b. Class 2 – operation from -40 degrees F (-40 degrees C) to 131 degrees F (55 degrees C) environment.

c. Shipping and storage temperature ranges for Class 1 and 2 signs are from -67 degrees F (-55 degrees C) to 131 degrees F (55 degrees C).

### 1.2.5 Modes of Signs.

Signs of the following modes are part of this specification:

- a. Mode 1 – must withstand wind loads of 100 miles per hour (mph) (161 kilometers per hour (kph)) and is only applicable to unlighted signs, Style 4.
- b. Mode 2 – must withstand wind loads of 200 mph (322 kph).
- c. Mode 3 – must withstand wind loads of 300 mph (483 kph).

**NOTE:** *Mode 3 is applicable only to special circumstances where the sign location poses an increased safety risk arising from jet blast. See paragraphs 4.1.1.2, Lighted Sign Wind Load and Frangibility Test and 4.2.1.2, Unlighted Sign Wind Load and Frangibility Test.*

### 1.2.6 Definitions.

See APPENDIX H, Figure 18, for an illustration of a typical sign and its parts.

The following definitions are used throughout this AC:

- a. **Message element** – the use of characters, symbols, or a combination of characters and symbols in its simplest form used to communicate a location, direction, or action on the airport surface movement area. For example, see Figure 13: the three taxiway direction signs and a taxiway location sign consist of four message elements. For the L-858R mandatory instruction sign, the runway “18-36” is a complete message element.
- b. **Sign face** – the viewable portion of a sign consisting of two parts:
  - 1. **Legend** – the inscription on the sign panel that conveys information to the viewer. All legend heights must be measured in a straight vertical plane.
  - 2. **Sign panel** – the viewable retroreflective background portion of the sign used for presenting information via the legend. The black margin on a Type L-858L legend must be considered retroreflective for the purpose of the “viewable” area.

**NOTE:** *The viewable portion of the sign face does not include any portion of the sign panel that is obscured by the sign frame.*

- c. **Proportionality** – all characters, numerals, and other graphics used in a sign are uniform in size and spaced per requirements in Appendix A and B. Sign length shall be determined based on the absolute values of width for the characters and spacing and shall not include any manufacturing tolerance.
- d. **Readability** – a measure of how well the viewer can interpret the intended message of a sign. Both the legibility and proportionality of characters and numerals play an important role. See section 4.1.1.1 for visual sign requirements.
- e. **Sign** – refers to a complete assembly that includes the sign housing, the retroreflective panel, the legend, the associated electrical components, and the sign mounting components.

f. **Sign Border** – for L-858L (taxiway location signs), the sign border is the yellow square that encloses the yellow legend character(s). For signs with no border (L-858Y, L-858R, L-858B, and L-858Ba) the border is the portion of the sign panel that excludes the legend.

g. **Sign Margin** – only applicable to L-858L signs. The margin is a black square that is outside the border. See paragraph 3.2.5.4.1 for dimensions.

h. **Sign edge** – the portion of the sign frame that retains the sign panel that is part of the sign face. See Figure 18. For example, the sign may be designed so that the inner edge of the sign functions as a retaining lip for the sign panel.

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## SECTION 2. APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS.

The following documents are referenced in this Advisory Circular (AC):

a. **FAA ACs and Engineering Briefs.**

1. AC 150/5220-9A, *Aircraft Arresting Systems on Civil Airports.*
2. AC 150/5340-18, *Standards for Airport Sign Systems.*
3. AC 150/5345-10, *Specification L-828 Constant Current Regulator.*
4. AC 150/5345-26, *Specification for L-823 Plug and Receptacle, Cable Connectors.*
5. AC 150/5345-42, *Specification for Airport Light Base and Transformer Housings, Junction Boxes, and Accessories.*
6. AC 150/5345-47, *Isolation Transformers for Airport Lighting Systems.*
7. AC 150/5345-53, *Airport Lighting Equipment Certification Program.*
8. Engineering Brief #67, *Light Sources Other Than Incandescent and Xenon for Airport and Obstruction Lighting Fixtures*

Electronic copies of FAA ACs and Engineering Briefs may be obtained from:

Internet: [www.faa.gov/airports/engineering](http://www.faa.gov/airports/engineering)

U.S. Department of Transportation  
Subsequent Distribution Office  
Ardmore East Business Center  
3341 Q 75th Avenue  
Landover, MD 20785

Telephone: (301) 322-4961

FAX: (301) 386-5394

b. **Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Code of Federal Regulation (CFR)**

Part 15, Subpart B, Unintentional Radiators, of Title 47, CFR

Copies of FCC documents may be obtained from:

Government Regulations website:

[www.regulations.gov/index.cfm](http://www.regulations.gov/index.cfm)

c. **American Society for Testing and Material (ASTM) Standard.**

D 4956, *Specification for Retroreflective Sheeting for Traffic Control*

Copies of ASTM standards may be obtained from:

American Society for Testing and Materials  
1916 Race Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

d. **Military Standards (MIL-STD).**

MIL-STD-810F, 1 January 2000, *Environmental Test Methods*

Copies of Military Standards may be obtained from:

Internet: [dodssp.daps.dla.mil/](http://dodssp.daps.dla.mil/)

or compact discs (CDs) on website order form by standard mail from:

DAPS / DODSSP  
Building 4/Section D  
700 Robbins Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19111-5094

e. **Illuminating Engineering Society (IES).**

LM-52, *Calibration*

Copies of IES standards may be obtained from:

Internet: [www.iesna.org/](http://www.iesna.org/)

or by standard mail from:

Illuminating Engineering Society  
120 Wall Street  
17th Floor  
New York, New York 10002

f. **Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE).**

AS25050, *General Requirements for Color, Aeronautical Lights, and Lighting Equipment*

Copies of SAE Standards are available from:

Internet: [www.sae.org](http://www.sae.org)

or by standard mail at:

SAE World Headquarters  
400 Commonwealth Drive  
Warrendale, PA 15096-0001

**g. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Publications.**

IEEE C62.41-1991 IEEE Recommended Practice on Surge Voltages in Low-Voltage AC Power Circuits

IEEE C62.45 IEEE Recommended Practice on Surge Testing for Equipment Connected to Low-Voltage (1000 V and Less) AC Power Circuits

Copies of IEEE standards may be obtained from:

IEEE Customer Service Center  
445 Hoes Lane  
P.O. Box 1331  
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331

Tel: (800) 678-4333  
FAX: (732) 981-0060 (Worldwide)  
FAX: (732) 981-9667

E-mail: [storehelp@ieee.org](mailto:storehelp@ieee.org)  
Website: [shop.ieee.org/ieeestore](http://shop.ieee.org/ieeestore)

## **SECTION 3. EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.**

### **3.1 Equipment Supplied with Sign.**

Each sign, including the mounting legs and hardware, must meet all the specification requirements in this document. Lighted signs must include:

- a. An electrical disconnect (paragraph 3.2.5.8).
- b. Any series lighting circuit adapter units (see paragraph 3.2.5.9c) for Style 2, 3, and 5 signs.
- c. Two instruction booklets (see paragraph 3.2.5.15).

### **3.2 Sign Environmental Requirements.**

Signs and all their required components must be designed for continuous outdoor use under the following conditions:

#### **3.2.1 Sign Temperature Requirements.**

Signs must withstand the following ambient temperature ranges:

- a. Class 1 signs: -4 degrees to +131 degrees F (-20 degrees to +55 degrees C).
- b. Class 2 signs: -40 degrees to +131 degrees F (-40 degrees to +55 degrees C).
- c. Shipping and storage temperature ranges for Class 1 and 2 signs are from -67 degrees F (-55 degrees C) to 131 degrees F (55 degrees C).

#### **3.2.2 Wind.**

- a. Mode 1 signs must withstand exposure to a wind speed of 100 mph (161 kph); this is only applicable to Style 4 signs.
- b. Mode 2 signs must withstand exposure to a wind speed of 200 mph (322 kph).
- c. Mode 3 signs must withstand exposure to a wind speed of 300 mph (483 kph).

**NOTE:** *Mode 3 is applicable only to special circumstances where the sign location poses an increased safety risk arising from aircraft jet blast. See paragraphs 4.1.1.2, Lighted Sign Wind Load and Frangibility Test, and 4.2.1.2, Unlighted Sign Wind Load and Frangibility Test.*

#### **3.2.3 Rain.**

All signs must withstand exposure to wind driven rain.

#### **3.2.4 Sunlight.**

All signs must withstand exposure to direct sunlight.

### 3.2.5 Lighted Signs.

#### 3.2.5.1 Lighted Sign Construction.

- a. Signs must be constructed of lightweight, nonferrous materials for installation on a concrete pad or stakes.
- b. All the required mounting hardware, except anchor bolts, must be supplied with each sign.
- c. Signs must be designed so lamps are easily accessible for replacement.

#### 3.2.5.2 Lighted Sign Sizes.

The dimensions of lighted signs must be per Table 1 below. Sign lengths must be chosen to show only complete message elements **and be the shortest allowable length. If a sign utilizes a housing that has legends on both sides, the longest legend making use of the shortest allowable length shall determine the length of sign used.** When required, a sign array may contain multiple signs of the same size (mounting and face height) installed end-to-end on a straight line.

- a. When **multiple signs** are used, the separation distance between **individual sign housings** must be 3 to 12 in. (76 to 305 mm). Internally and externally lighted signs may **not** be installed in the same sign array. See Appendix C for examples of sign arrays.

- b. The horizontal spacing/separation distance between message elements in a sign array within a common housing must be between 3 in. (76 mm) (accounting for any applicable minimum in Table 10) and must not exceed 12 in. (305mm).

1. The spacing/separation distance is defined as the message element character's adjacent edge to the adjacent message element character's adjacent edge.

2. If an L-858Y message element is adjacent to an L-858L message element, then the horizontal spacing/separation distance is measured from L-858Y character's adjacent edge to the L-858L's adjacent margin.

3. If the sign panel viewable horizontal length exceeds the maximum spacing allowable for the message elements, then the overage on the panel must be blanked out (black) at the outboard end of the legend in relation to its mounting (left or right side) adjacent to the Taxiway/Runway.

- c. Separating a message element on a destination sign (L-858Y) should be avoided. If a destination sign message element is separated into separate sign housings, an arrow should be included with each sign.

- d. The space between words or groups of characters forming an abbreviation or symbol should be equal to 0.5 to 0.75 of the height of the character used. Sign example "DEICE PAD B."

**Table 1. Lighted Sign Dimensions**

Sign Size	Legend Height		Viewable Legend Panel Height		Overall Mounting Height		Maximum Overall Length	
	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm
1	12	305	18	457	24-30	610-762	120	3048
2	15	381	24	610	30-36	762-914	145	3683
3	18	4570	30	762	36-42	914-1067	170	4318
4	40	1016	48	1219	54-60	1372-1524		
5	25	635	30	762	36-42	914-1067		

**NOTES:**

The required legend heights for:

1. Runway Safety Area (RSA)/Obstacle Free Zone (OFZ)/Runway Approach Boundary sign;
2. Instrument landing systems (ILS) Critical Area Boundary sign;
3. No Entry signs;

are in Appendix B, Tables 11, 12, and 13.

**3.2.5.3 Lighted Sign Mounting Legs.**

a. The frangible groove in the mounting legs for each sign must be located 2 in. (51 mm) or less above the concrete base pad or stake.

b. Mode 2 sign frangible points must withstand wind loads from jet blasts up to 200 mph (322 kph), but must break before reaching an applied static load distributed over the legend panel surface of 1.3 pounds per square inch (psi) (8.96 kilo Pascals (kPa)).

c. Mode 3 sign frangible points must withstand wind loads from jet blasts up to 300 mph (483 kph) but must break before reaching an applied static load distributed over the legend panel surface of 2.8 psi (19.3 kPa).

d. Legend panels and panel supports must withstand, at a minimum, the same pressure at which the frangible points are designed to break.

e. Sign tether anchor hard points must be provided on one sign mounting leg above the frangible breaking point. Tether anchor hard points must be provided so that one end of the tether attaches to the sign structure, and the other end attaches below the frangible point on the coupling to either one of the leg mounting bolts or an independent bolt in the concrete mounting pad.

f. Signs that consist of multiple separate modules that are not in a continuous frame to form a sign array must have a minimum of one tether per module.

g. For sign arrays (and signs that use multiple modules in a continuous frame to form a sign array), a tether must be used at either end.

**3.2.5.4 Lighted Sign Faces.**

a. Signs must be either single face with a message on one side or double face with a message on two sides.

b. The sign faces must use retroreflective material and meet the color and reflectivity requirements of ASTM D4956, Type I Sheeting, Retroreflective Material, when installed. The retroreflective material must not be warped or wrinkled.

c. The spacing, stroke, and shape of legend characters, numerals, and symbols must be per [Appendices A and B](#) of this specification.

d. Type L-858L sign faces must have a margin and a border per paragraph 3.2.5.4.1 and be per Appendix C, Figure 11.

e. Lighted sign message dividers must be per paragraph 3.2.5.4.2.

f. Panel joints must be the same color as the sign background so as not to give the appearance of a message divider.

#### **3.2.5.4.1 Margin and Border for Type L-858L Signs.**

The sign faces of sign Type L-858L must have the following [characteristics \(manufacturing tolerance is  \$\pm 1/8\$  in. \(3.2 mm\) for sizes listed below\)](#):

a. A continuous [yellow border 13/16 in. \(21 mm\)](#) wide for size 1 signs.

b. A continuous [yellow border 1-1/16 in. \(27 mm\)](#) wide for size 2 signs.

c. A continuous [yellow border 1-1/4 in. \(32 mm\)](#) wide for size 3 signs.

d. [Both the border and legend must be yellow.](#)

e. The border must be set in from the [inner edge](#) of the sign to yield a continuous [black margin of 11/16 in. \(17 mm\)](#) for Size 1 signs ([manufacturing tolerance is  \$\pm 1/4\$  in. \(6.4 mm\)](#)).

**NOTE:** [See APPENDIX C, Figure 11 and Appendix H, Figure 18, for sign inner edge locations.](#)

f. The border must be set in from the [inner edge](#) of the sign to yield a continuous [black margin of 1-7/16 in. \(37 mm\)](#) for Size 2 signs ([manufacturing tolerance is  \$\pm 1/4\$  in. \(6.4 mm\)](#)).

g. The border must be set in from the [inner edge](#) of the sign to yield a continuous [black margin of 2.0 in. \(51 mm\)](#) for Size 3 signs ([manufacturing tolerance is  \$\pm 1/4\$  in. \(6.4 mm\)](#)).

h. The horizontal distance from the edge of a sign character or numeral to the inside edge of the sign border must conform to the dimensions in Appendix A, [Table 10](#).

#### **3.2.5.4.2 Lighted Sign Message Dividers.**

a. Vertical message dividers must be used to separate the message elements of a sign array (e.g. "C →", "←T →", "15 - APCH") shown in Appendix C, Figure 11.

b. Message dividers must **not** be used to separate Type L-858L signs from Type L-858Y or Type L-858R signs when they are co-located. [See Figure 11.](#)

c. Message dividers must be ([manufacturing tolerance is  \$\pm 1/8\$  in. \(3.2 mm\) for signs sizes listed below](#)):

1. 1-5/16 in. (33 mm) in width for size 1 signs.
  2. 1-11/16 in. (43 mm) in width for size 2 signs.
  3. 2 in. (51 mm) in width for size 3 signs.
- d. Sign message dividers must extend from the top to the bottom of the legend panel.
  - e. The sign message divider color must be the same as the legend.

#### 3.2.5.5 Lighted Sign Power.

- a. Style 1, 2, 3, and 5 signs must be internally lighted.
  - b. Style 1 signs must operate from a 120 volt AC power source.
  - c. Style 2 signs must operate from an airport series lighting circuit with a current range of 4.8 to 6.6 amperes (A).
  - d. Style 3 signs must operate from an airport series lighting circuit with a current range of 2.8 to 6.6 A or 8.5 to 20 A.
  - e. Signs installed on a 20 A circuit should use an appropriate isolation transformer with a 6.6 A secondary.
  - f. For Style 2 and Style 3 signs, there should be no noticeable variance of luminance throughout the range of constant current regulator brightness steps. The signs must meet the luminance requirements in paragraph 3.2.5.6 throughout the current ranges of the associated series circuit.
- NOTE:** See 150/5340-30, *Design and Installation Details for Airport Visual Aids, Appendix F* for additional information about the possible adverse effects of sign power supply loading on a constant current regulator.
- g. Style 5 signs must be designed for operation from an airport series lighting circuit with a current of 5.5 A.
  - h. Style 5 signs must be installed on a circuit, containing only these signs, powered from a three-step regulator preset to 5.5 A output.
  - i. The regulator control system must be designed to meet the “Sign Operation” requirements in AC 150/5340-18, *Standards for Airport Sign Systems*.
  - j. Intensity control must **not** be provided for Style 5 sign circuits.
  - k. Style 2, 3, and 5 sign power factor, when measured at the isolation transformer primary winding power leads, must be not less than 0.8 when operated at all FAA current step settings per AC 150-5345-10. This requirement also applies to dot matrix and ALD sign designs in Sections 6 and 7.

### 3.2.5.6 Sign Luminance.

a. The background of Type L-858Y signs and the legends of Type L-858R and L-858L signs must have an average luminance of 10 to 30 foot lamberts (fL). See Section 6 for Type L-858Ba dot matrix luminance requirements.

b. The sign type must be readily identifiable up to 800 feet (ft.) (244 meters (m)) when it is viewed during the day or lighted at night.

c. Lamps must be easily accessible for replacement.

d. Style 2, 3, and 5 signs must be compatible with all L-828 regulators specified in AC 150/5345-10, *Specification for Constant Current Regulator*.

### 3.2.5.7 Sign Internal Lamp Failure

The failure of any light source within a sign must not result in a potential miscommunication of the intended message to a pilot. If the failure of an internal lamp(s) in a sign causes a panel or any section of a panel to be dark, or have an average luminance less than the minimum required in paragraph 3.2.5.6, sign operation must be automatically discontinued.

### 3.2.5.8 Electrical Disconnect.

a. All lighted signs must be equipped with a power input disconnect cable terminated with a Type II plug under the requirements of AC 150/5345-26, *Specification for L-823 Plug and Receptacle Cable Connectors*.

b. The length of power disconnect cable must be at least 6 in. (152 mm) longer than required to permit the plug end to reach the top of the concrete pad or stake on which the sign is mounted.

c. A cable clamp or similar restraining device must be provided in the sign to prevent strain on the cable terminal connections when the cable plug is pulled apart.

d. There must be no above ground power cable connections to signs. Power to a sign or sign array must be provided through breakaway cable connectors installed within the frangible point portion of the sign's mounting legs.

e. There must be no external above ground electrical connection between signs in a sign array.

### 3.2.5.9 Style 2, Style 3 and Style 5 Signs.

a. Signs operated in a series lighting circuit must work at any current value within the circuit current range and must not flicker after stabilization of the selected current setting step per the time specified in FAA AC 150/5345-10.

b. Power input to lighted signs from the series lighting circuit must be made through an isolation transformer of the proper rating, conforming to AC 150/5345-47, *Isolation Transformers for Airport Lighting Systems*.

**NOTE:** The isolation transformer will not be supplied with the sign.

c. If the design requires external power adapter circuitry, all circuitry must be enclosed in a watertight container for installation in a transformer housing, [per](#) AC 150/5345-42, *Specification for Airport Light Base and Transformer Housings, Junction Boxes and Accessories*. All external power adapter units must be provided with the sign. The transformer housing will not be supplied with the sign.

**NOTE:** *Do not attempt to power any signs that are not specifically recommended by the power adapter manufacturer. Be aware that the sign and/or power adapter power factor can affect requirements relevant to the size of the constant current regulator.*

d. The external power adapter unit must be delivered with an output cable at least 24 inches (610 mm) long and terminated with a Type II, Class A, Style 7 receptacle, [per](#) AC 150/5345-26.

e. If an isolation transformer is integral with the external power adapter unit, the power input leads must be at least 24 inches (610 mm) long, with one lead terminating in a Type I, Class A, Style 9 receptacle, [per](#) AC 150/5345-26.

#### **3.2.5.10 Lighted Sign Materials and Components.**

a. All materials used in fabrication of the signs and mounting hardware must be suitable for their purpose and protected against corrosion.

b. All sign assembly hardware and latches must be 304, [316](#), or 18-8 stainless steel.

c. All wiring and components must be properly rated and not operated in excess of the component manufacturer's recommended ratings.

d. At the time of certification, sign lamps used are listed and inclusive of the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) or lamp supplier.

**NOTE:** *Lamp manufacturers and distributors are not required to either test or burn-in lamps to FAA specifications. This is especially true for pre-focused lamps. Only the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) assures that appropriate testing and burn-in of lamps is done to meet the requirements of this AC.*

[e. Replacement lighted sign materials and components must maintain the certified sign characteristics.](#)

f. When replacing sign panels due to damage or taxiway/runway re-designation, the entire message element should be replaced. This will avoid panel-to-panel color changes that may be distracting to pilots.

#### **3.2.5.11 Lighted Sign Finish.**

a. External surfaces of signs, excluding the mounting legs and face panel, must be a low luster black finish.

b. Paint coatings or surface treatments on nonmetallic surfaces must be equal in quality to those on metal surfaces.

c. Paint coatings and surface treatments must be free from any runs, blotches, and scratches.

**3.2.5.12 Nameplate.**

- a. Each sign must have a nameplate showing:
  1. Type
  2. Size
  3. Style
  4. Class
  5. Manufacturer's name and address
  6. Date of manufacture
  7. Catalog number
  8. Lamp data including the lamp type and rating.
- b. The nameplate on Style 1 signs must show the total volt-ampere (VA) load and power factor of the sign, including any required ballasts or adapter units.
- c. The nameplate on Style 2, 3 and 5 signs must show the total maximum VA load and power factor measured on the primary side of the isolation transformer. The load indicated must represent the worst case VA loading anticipated on the lighting circuit regulator including any ballasts and/or adapter units required for sign operation.
- d. Nameplates must be fabricated from materials that will resist fading and cracking arising from exposure to weather, salt laden air, and sunshine.

**3.2.5.13 Frangible Couplings.**

Each frangible coupling must be permanently marked with the manufacturer's name (may be abbreviated) and the size of sign for which the coupling is rated.

**3.2.5.14 Workmanship.**

- a. All signs must be fabricated under the highest quality commercial assembly standards and workmanship.
- b. All wiring must be neatly run and laced.
- c. All sharp edges and burrs must be removed.
- d. Painted surfaces must be free from runs, blotches, and scratches.

**3.2.5.15 Instruction Booklet.**

- a. Two instruction booklets must be included with each order of signs.
- b. The instruction booklets must include:

1. Sign installation instructions.
2. Sign maintenance procedures.
3. Troubleshooting procedures (including operating voltages and point readings).
4. Complete parts list.
5. The lamp voltage or current necessary to meet the luminance levels in paragraph 3.2.5.6 of this document.

### **3.2.6 Unlighted Sign Requirements.**

#### **3.2.6.1 Unlighted Sign Construction.**

- a. The sign panel must be designed for installation on stakes or a concrete pad.
- b. All required mounting hardware, except the anchor bolts, must be supplied with the sign.
- c. Style 4 signs must not be designed to swing.

#### **3.2.6.2 Unlighted Sign Materials and Components.**

- a. Sign panels must be made from aluminum, except when a tested lighted sign is used as an unlighted sign.
- b. The aluminum sheet must be free from any laminations, blisters, open seams, pits, holes, or other defects.
- c. The aluminum sheet thickness must be uniform and the fabricated sign blank flat to commercial standards.
- d. All sign mounting hardware must be suitable for its intended purpose and protected from corrosion.
- e. All sign screws, bolts, nuts, and washers, must be alloy 304, 316, or 18-8 stainless steel.
- f. An insulating material must be used between any aluminum and steel material in direct contact to prevent galvanic corrosion.
- g. Any retroreflective material used must meet both the color and reflectivity requirements of ASTM D4956, *Specification for Retroreflective Sheeting for Traffic Control*, for Type III or Type IV sheeting.

#### **3.2.6.3 Unlighted Sign Sizes.**

- a. The sign dimensions given in Table 1 must be used for all unlighted signs, with the addition of the following minimum sign length dimensions:
  1. Size 1 - 30 in. (762 mm)
  2. Size 2 - 36 in. (914 mm)

3. Size 3 - 42 in. (1067 mm)
  - b. Sign lengths must be selected to fit only complete message elements.
  - c. When required, a sign array may contain multiple signs of the same size (mounting height and face height) installed end-to-end on a straight line.
  - d. When multiple signs are used, the separation distance between legend panels must be 3 to 6 in. (76 to 152 mm). See Appendix D for examples of multiple sign arrays.
  - e. Paragraph 3.2.5.2b must apply for the separation distance between message elements in a sign array.

#### **3.2.6.4 Unlighted Sign Mounting Legs.**

See paragraph 3.2.5.3; all requirements apply with the following additions:

- a. Sign support legs must be mounted to the back surface of the sign so there is no obstruction to any portion of the sign front.
- b. The frangible points for mode 1 signs must withstand wind loads from jet blasts of 100 mph (161 kph), but must break before reaching an applied static load over the legend panel of 0.9 psi (6.21 kPa).
- c. Mode 1 signs must withstand 100 mph (161 kph) winds and jet blast/prop wash from aircraft without bending or changing shape.

#### **3.2.6.5 Unlighted Sign Faces.**

(With the exception of a prior tested lighted console sign used as an unlighted sign.)

- a. The sign background, except for black, must consist of retro-reflective sheeting applied to signs prepared per the recommendations of the sheeting manufacturer.
- b. The sign panel and sheeting must be a smooth surface of uniform color, free of cracks, wrinkles, blisters, and warps.
- c. Sign messages must be formed to provide a continuous stroke width with smooth edges and present a flat surface free from warps, blisters, wrinkles, and burrs.
- d. The background and legend color must meet the requirements in this AC for each type of sign.
- e. Sign faces must be constructed by the direct applied characters process or the screen process per paragraphs 3.2.6.5.1 and 3.2.6.5.2.
- f. The spacing, stroke, and shape of legend characters, numerals, and symbols must be per Appendices A and B.
- g. Type L-858L sign faces must have a margin and a border per paragraph 3.2.6.6 and as illustrated in Appendix D, Figure 13.

- h. Message dividers must be per paragraph 3.2.6.7.
- i. Corners of sign faces must be rounded to a radius of 1-1/2-in.  $\pm$  1/8 in. (38-mm  $\pm$  3 mm). See Appendices D and G for examples.

#### **3.2.6.5.1 Direct Applied Character Process.**

Letters, numerals, symbols and the border of signs must be cut from retroreflective sheeting and applied per the manufacturer's recommendations.

#### **3.2.6.5.2 Screen Process.**

- a. Letters, numerals, symbols, and the border of signs must be applied to the retro-reflective sheeting or opaque background of sign by direct or reverse screening.
- b. Messages for Type L-858Y signs must be applied to retroreflective sheeting by a direct screening process.
- c. Sign messages for Types L-858L and L-858R signs must be produced by the reverse screening process.

#### **3.2.6.6 Margin and Border for Type L-858L Unlighted Signs.**

See paragraph 3.2.5.4.1; all requirements apply to unlighted signs.

#### **3.2.6.7 Unlighted Sign Message Dividers.**

See paragraph 3.2.5.4.2, all requirements apply to unlighted signs.

#### **3.2.6.8 Unlighted Sign Finish.**

The back panel of the sign must be painted with a primer coat and low luster, flat black, finish coat or equivalent.

#### **3.2.6.9 Unlighted Sign Frangible Couplings.**

See paragraph 3.2.5.13; all requirements must apply to unlighted signs.

#### **3.2.6.10 Workmanship.**

The sign must be fabricated so all sharp edges and burrs are removed. Painted surfaces must be free from any runs, blotches, and scratches.

#### **3.2.6.11 Instruction Booklet.**

An instruction booklet must be included with each order of sign as follows:

- a. sign installation procedures,
- b. operation details,
- c. complete parts list.

## SECTION 4. QUALIFICATION PROCEDURES.

Procedures for qualifying equipment furnished under the Federal grant assistance program for airports are in Advisory Circular 150/5345-53, *Airport Lighting Equipment Certification Program*, and all the detailed testing procedures and requirements in this document.

### 4.1 Lighted Sign Qualification Tests.

All tests contained in paragraphs 4.1.1 and 4.2 of this document apply for any product certification of taxiway and runway signs.

#### 4.1.1 General Qualification Tests.

##### 4.1.1.1 Lighted Sign Visual Examination.

For this test:

- a. Type L-858Y signs must have at least two message elements separated by a message divider.
- b. Type L-858R signs must have a legend that reads, "18-36".
- c. Type L-858L signs must have a legend that reads "B".
- d. All signs must be examined for the following under the requirements of this AC for:
  1. Dimensions
  2. Materials
  3. Component ratings
  4. Finish
  5. Quality of workmanship
- f. Signs must be viewed in daylight from 800 ft. (244 m). The sign type, defined in paragraph 1.2.1 of this document, must be easily identifiable.
- g. The sign face and retroreflective material must be smooth in appearance and free of any visual aberrations (except at the panel joints of modular signs). Retroreflective sheeting type must be per paragraph 3.2.5.4
- h. Both the legend and background colors on modular signs must be continuous across panel joints.
- i. Signs must be viewed from 800 ft. (244 m) at night to determine if the luminance level is sufficient to make the Type L-858Y and L-858R background colors and Type L-858L legend and border colors readily discernible.
- j. Type L-858B and L-858Ba, Runway Distance Remaining signs, must be viewed from 800 ft. (244 m) at night to determine if the legend is readily discernible.

k. Style 2 and Style 3 signs must be viewed while the input current is varied throughout the range on which the sign is to operate.

l. Modular signs must be viewed from 200 ft. (61 m) at full brightness.

1. Panel joints must not interfere with the legibility of the sign or leak light to create a color discontinuity across the joint.

2. Signs must be evenly illuminated with no dark areas or banding that interferes with legibility.

#### **4.1.1.2 Lighted Sign Wind Load and Frangibility Test.**

a. Mode 2 signs must be tested to withstand loads of 200 mph (322 kph) without damage.

b. Mode 3 signs must be tested to withstand wind loads of 300 mph (483 kph) without damage.

c. All testing must be performed with sign fully assembled and mounted on its base.

**NOTE:** *If wind loading is applied with the sign mounted on a vertical surface, the weight of the sign must be included as part of the total applied weight.*

d. Wind loading tests must be designed to ensure the sign legend panel receives the full wind load.

e. To simulate wind loading, a static force equivalent to the specified wind velocity (0.9 psi (6.21 kPa) for a Mode 2 flat panel sign and 2.0 psi (13.8 kPa) for a Mode 3 flat panel sign) must be uniformly applied to the entire surface of the legend panel for 10 minutes.

1. The sign must not break at the frangible points.

2. Both the legend panel and panel supports must be inspected for damage. If there is any breakage or permanent deformation, it is considered as a test failure and a cause for rejection.

f. The static force (equivalent to the specified wind velocity) applied in paragraph 4.1.1.2e must be increased until the sign breaks at the frangible points. Frangible point failure must occur before the legend panel loading reaches a maximum equivalent static force of 1.3 psi (8.96 kPa) for a Mode 2 flat panel sign and 2.8 psi (19.3 kPa) for a Mode 3 flat panel sign.

**NOTE:** *Mode 1 is only applicable to unlighted signs, refer to paragraph 4.2.1.2.*

1. When the loading test is complete, both the legend panel and panel supports must be inspected for damage.

2. If there is any breakage or deformation, it is considered a test failure and a cause for rejection.

#### **4.1.1.3 Lighted Sign Photometric Testing.**

##### **4.1.1.3.1 Photometer Parameters.**

a. A photometer or telephotometer must be used for this test.

b. IES, LM-52-98, *IESNA Guide for Photometric Measurements of Roadway Sign Installations*, (provides test procedures and methods of obtaining and reporting data) must be used for guidance for all sign photometric testing.

c. The photometric equipment calibration must be verified before performing any tests, and, if necessary, calibrated, under the most current National Institute of Standards (NIST) traceable standards.

d. Meters must measure luminance expressed in fL and be well color corrected.

e. Meters must measure a "spot" on the sign face that is 1.5 in. (38.1 mm) diameter.

f. Only light emitted from the sign must be permitted to reach either meter type.

g. If using a photometer, a 6 inch (152 mm) collimated adapter tube must be placed between the meter and the sign to limit the measurement field to 1.5 in. (38.1 mm). In addition, the adapter tube must be calibrated with the instrument.

h. If using a telephotometer, the meter aperture and distance from the sign must be selected as closely as possible to evaluate a 1.5 inch (38.1 mm) area.

i. Style 2 and 3 signs must be tested at the high and low input currents within the range of the series lighting circuit power.

#### **4.1.1.3.2 Lighted Sign Types and Sizes Testing.**

a. Photometric testing must be conducted on sizes 1, 2, and 3 for each of Type L-858Y, L-858R, and L-858L signs. Photometric testing must also be conducted on Type L-858Ba dot matrix and ALD signs (see sections 6 and 7).

b. If a luminaire design of a double face sign is symmetrical for both faces, then only one face is required to be tested.

c. The length of Types L-858Y and L-858R signs tested must be 45 in. (1143 mm) minimum.

d. Signs using modular construction must contain at least two modules for photometric testing.

#### **4.1.1.3.3 Lighted Sign Faces.**

a. Type L-858Y and L-858L signs must have an entirely yellow sign face fabricated from the same material used to create the background on production L-858Y signs or the legend and border on production L-858L signs.

b. Type L-858R, L-858B, and L-858H signs must have an entirely white face fabricated from the same material used to create the legend on production L-858R signs.

c. Photometry tests are to be done on a sign with one white panel installed on one side and one yellow panel installed on the other side.

#### **4.1.1.3.4 Measurements.**

a. Measurements must be made on a 3 in. (76 mm) grid over the entire face of the sign, with no measurement closer than 3 in. (76 mm) to the **inside edge of the** sign frame.

- b. All measurements must be between 10 and 30 fL.
- c. The ratio between maximum and minimum luminance over the whole sign face must not exceed 3:1.
- d. Adjacent grid measurements must not exceed a 1.5:1 luminance ratio.

**NOTE:** See paragraph 6.4 for photometric measurements on Type L858B(a) dot matrix signs.

#### **4.1.1.3.5 Lighted Sign Light Source Failure Test.**

- a. Simulate a failure of a light source within the sign.
- b. Check that the sign meets the requirements in paragraph 3.2.5.7.

#### **4.1.1.4 Lighted Sign Rain Test.**

- a. A rain test for Style 1, 2, 3, and 5 signs must be conducted using MIL STD-810F, 1 January 2000, Method 506, paragraph 4.4.2, Procedure I, Rain and blowing rain.

**NOTE:** The design must be checked for gaps between the sign face and frame that could allow the entry of windblown snow or rain into the sign interior.

- 1. Signs must be designed to quickly drain any accumulated water.
- 2. Sign circuit components must not be mounted in areas where water will accumulate.
- b. The presence of any water inside the sign must not change the electrical load of the sign.
- c. The sign must be operated during the last 10 minutes of the test. Failure of the sign to operate is considered a failed test.

#### **4.1.1.5 Lighted Sign Low Temperature Test.**

- a. A low temperature test must be conducted under MIL-STD-810F, 1 January 2000, Method 502.4, Procedure II.
- b. Any required power adapter units (see paragraph 3.2.5.9c) must be included in the test.
- c. The lowest operating temperature for Class 1 signs is -4 degrees F (-20 degrees C).
- d. The lowest operating temperature for Class 2 signs is -40 degrees F (-40 degrees C).
- e. With the sign temperature stabilized at the lowest temperature, inspect the sign face for any damage, such as cracking, peeling, delaminating, and flaking.
- f. Any damage, including subparagraph c. above, to the sign face or structure, is considered as a failed test and a cause for rejection. Failure to operate or failure to reach normal sign illumination within 2 minutes after it is energized is also cause for rejection.
- g. The sign must be re-stabilized at the lowest test temperature after an examination.

#### 4.1.1.6 Lighted Sign High Temperature Test.

a. A temperature shock test must be conducted for lighted signs using MIL-STD-810F, 1 January 2000, Method 503.4, Procedure II, Shock to/from Cyclic High Temperatures and include any required adapter units.

b. The maximum environmental chamber temperature must be 131 degrees F (+55 degrees C). This test must immediately follow the low temperature test in paragraph 4.1.1.5.

c. The high temperature chamber must be preheated and stabilized at the maximum temperature before performing the test.

1. The sign must be transferred within 5 minutes or less from the low temperature chamber to the high temperature chamber.

2. When the sign temperature is stabilized at the maximum chamber hot temperature, inspect the sign face for any cracking, peeling, bubbling, delaminating, and flaking. If any structural damage is evident, it is considered as a failed test and cause for rejection. In addition, if a sign fails to operate, it is also considered as a test failure and a cause for rejection.

d. After the sign cools to ambient temperature, re-inspect the sign face. Any damage is considered as a failed test.

#### 4.1.1.7 Solar Radiation Test.

a. A solar radiation test must be conducted using MIL-STD-810F, 1 January 2000, Method 505.4, paragraph 4.4.2, Procedure II.

b. The sign must be subjected to a minimum of 56 cycles.

c. Sign legend panels are not required for this test. All other external non-metallic parts must be tested.

d. At the end of the test, any evidence of structural damage, cracking, peeling, bubbling, flaking, delaminating or corrosion is considered as a failed test and a cause for rejection.

#### 4.1.1.8 External Sign Power Adapter Immersion Test.

a. A water immersion test must be conducted using MIL-STD-810F, 1 January 2000, Method 512.4, Procedure I, on the external sign power adapter unit after it is subjected to the high temperature testing in paragraph 4.1.1.6.

**NOTE:** *The immersion test confirms whether or not the adapter gasket material was adversely affected after its exposure to high temperatures.*

b. Any evidence of water in the adapter unit is considered a failed test and cause for rejection.

#### 4.1.1.9 Lighted sign Power Factor Test

Style 2, 3, 5, Dot Matrix, and ALD lighted signs must be tested for a power factor of not less than 0.8 [per the requirements in paragraph 3.2.5.5.](#)

- a. All power factor measurements must be conducted at the primary winding of the isolation transformer.
- b. The constant current regulator used for the test must be resistively loaded to 50 percent of its capacity.

#### **4.1.1.10 Sign Surge Voltage Test**

**NOTE:** *The equipment may be damaged by this test. Perform this test only after photometric testing in paragraph 4.1.1.3 is complete.*

- a. Apply 2 pulses at 15 second intervals per the descriptions in IEEE C62.41, Table 4, Location Category C, to the ALD sign power input (sign AC power off).
- b. See IEEE C62.41-1991 Section 9.3 for test condition and test generator information.
- c. See IEEE C62.41-1991 Section 9.4 for a detailed combination pulse generation and parameters discussion.
- d. See also IEEE C62.45, IEEE Recommended Practice on Surge Testing for Equipment
- c. Connected to Low-Voltage (1,000 volts (V) and Less) AC Power Circuits for guidance about equipment
- d. test methods.
- e. The equipment under test must operate normally at the conclusion of the test.

#### **4.2 Unlighted Sign Qualification Procedures.**

Procedures for qualifying equipment to be furnished under the Federal grant assistance program for airports are in Advisory Circular 150/5345-53, *Airport Lighting Equipment Certification Program*.

##### **4.2.1 Unlighted Sign Conformance Tests.**

##### **4.2.1.1 Unlighted Sign Visual Inspection.**

For this test:

- a. Type L-858Y signs must have at least two message elements separated by a message divider. Type L-858R signs must have a legend, that, for example, reads, "**18-36**."
- b. Type L-858L signs must have a legend that, for example, reads "**B**."
- c. All signs must be examined for compliance with the requirements of this AC for:
  - 1. Dimensions,
  - 2. Materials,
  - 3. Finish,

#### 4. Quality of workmanship.

d. All signs must be viewed in daylight and at night from 800 ft. (244 m). The sign types, described in paragraph 1.2.1 of this document, must be readily identifiable.

e. Both the sign face and retroreflective material must have a smooth appearance and be free of any aberration (excepting minor seams between retroreflective sheets) and sharp edges. Unlighted sign retroreflective sheeting types must be per paragraph 3.2.6.2.

##### **4.2.1.2 Unlighted Sign Wind Load and Frangibility Test.**

See paragraph 4.1.1.2; all requirements apply with the following exceptions for Mode 1:

a. Mode 1 unlighted signs or substitute lighted signs must be tested to withstand wind loads of 100 mph (161 kph).

b. A static force (equivalent to the specified wind velocity) of 0.23 psi (1.59 kPa) for mode 1 unlighted sign flat panel designs must be uniformly applied over the full surface of the legend panel for 10 minutes. The sign must not break at the frangible points or suffer any permanent distortion.

c. The frangible points must break before the static force (equivalent to the specified wind velocity) applied to the legend panel reaches 0.9 psi (6.21 kPa) for Mode 1 unlighted flat panel designs.

##### **4.2.1.3 Unlighted Sign Low Temperature Test.**

See paragraph 4.1.1.5; all requirements apply to unlighted signs.

##### **4.2.1.4 Unlighted Sign High Temperature Test.**

See paragraph 4.1.1.6; all requirements apply to unlighted signs.

##### **4.2.1.5 Unlighted Sign Solar Radiation Test.**

See paragraph 4.1.1.7; all requirements apply to unlighted signs including aluminum panels.

## SECTION 5. PRODUCTION.

All production sign panels must be inspected for compliance to the requirements of this AC for:

- a. dimensions,
- b. materials,
- c. finish,
- d. quality of workmanship.

Panels using retroreflective material must also be inspected to ensure that it is smooth and free from aberration with the exception of the panel joints in modular signs.

All the panel joints of modular signs must be inspected to ensure they do not interfere with the legibility of the sign.

### 5.1 Warranty.

The manufacturer must agree to provide each customer with the following guarantee:

This sign is manufactured under [AC/150-5345-44J](#), *Specification for Runway and Taxiway Signs*, and warranted for 2 years after the installation date. Any defects in material or workmanship will be corrected or the sign replaced by the manufacturer at no cost to the airport owner.

## **SECTION 6. DOT MATRIX SIGNAGE.**

Dot matrix signs use fiber optics or LEDs that produce a sign legend character. The use of dot matrix technology for airport signs applies only to Type L-858Ba, Size 4 and 5, Runway Distance Remaining, signs.

### **6.1 General Dot Matrix Sign Requirements.**

a. All the specification and quality assurance requirements for lighted signs in this document, including the requirements in this section, apply to Type L-858Ba dot matrix signs.

b. Type L-858Ba signs must only be used for new installations and upgrades and not mixed with conventionally illuminated signs.

c. All dot matrix fixtures using LEDs for the dot matrix or as source lamps must also conform to the requirements of paragraph 7.3, ALD Sign Power.

### **6.2 Construction.**

Cooling fans must not be used in the sign design.

#### **6.2.1 Dot Matrix Sign Face.**

- a. The sign face legend must be a fixed matrix type.
- b. The sign face background must be black with a white legend as shown in Appendix F, Figure 15.
- c. Individual fiber optic points must not exceed a 0.8 in. (20 mm) distance from the legend character endpoints.
- d. The fiber optic points that illuminate a character must be spaced not more than 0.8 in. (20 mm), and must follow the center (loci) of the character with the following exception:
- e. The fiber optic points loci must be shifted to the left edge of the vertical member for the numeral "5."
- f. If multiple lamps are used to illuminate the sign, a single lamp failure must not cause any dark fiber optic points on the sign face.

#### **6.2.2 Fiber Optic Materials and Components.**

- a. Dot matrix signs must use end lit fiber optic designs; side lit designs must not be used.
- b. Fiber optic materials used in a dot matrix sign must have a minimum glass transition temperature of 212 degrees F (100 degrees C).
- c. All fiber optic bundles must be jacketed with opaque material.

### **6.3 Dot Matrix Sign Luminous Intensity.**

- a. The legend of Type L-858Ba dot matrix signs must have a minimum average luminous intensity of 2 candelas when measured with the method in paragraph 6.4.2.
- b. The sign must be easily identified up to 800 ft. (244 m) during the day or when lighted at night.

### **6.4 Quality Assurance.**

#### **6.4.1 Dot Matrix Sign Photometric Test.**

- a. A photometer must be used for this test.
- b. Before performing any tests, the photometric equipment calibration must be verified to be current. The equipment must be calibrated under the most current National Institute of Standards (NIST) traceable standards.
- c. Use IES publication, LM-35, Photometric Testing of Floodlights Using Incandescent Filament or Discharge Lamps, Paragraph 6 for the photometric equipment setup.

#### **6.4.2 Photometric Performance.**

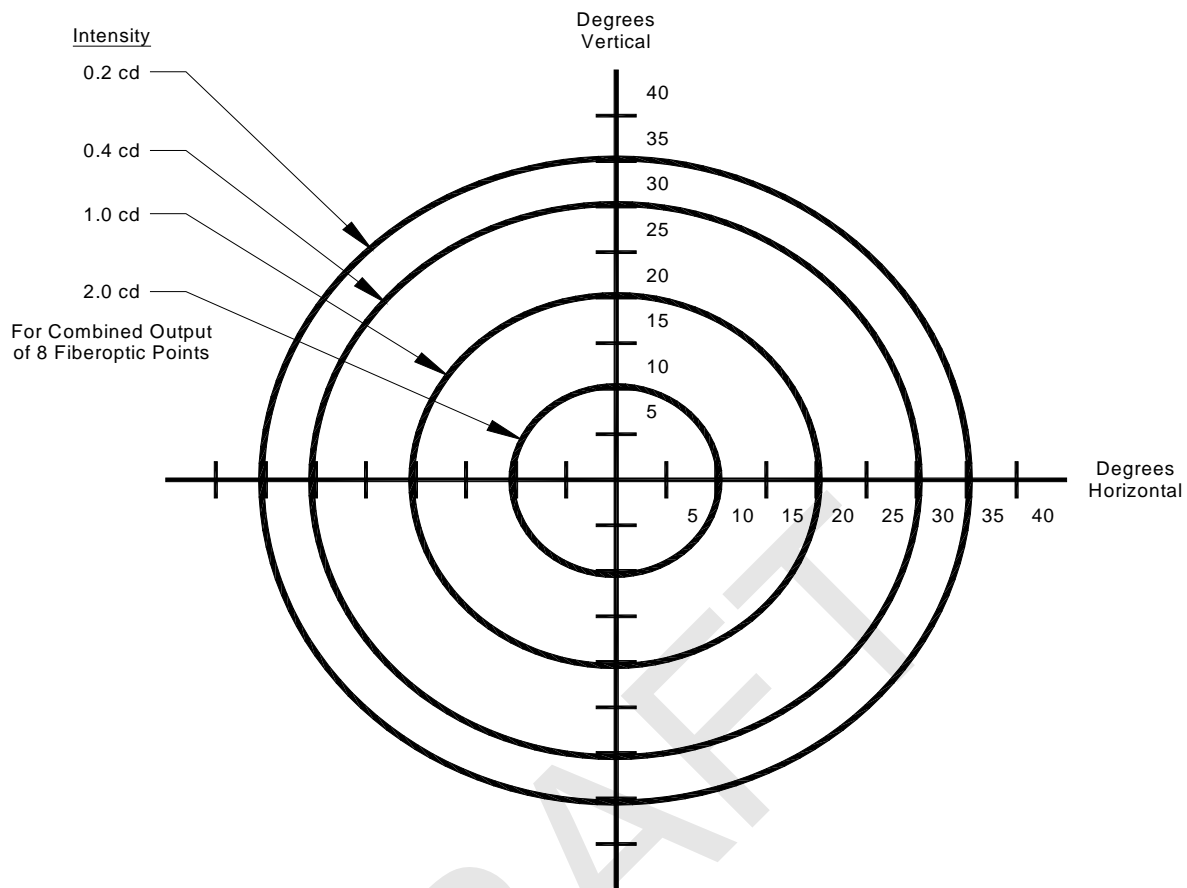
- a. The sign must be operated for a minimum of 15 minutes at ambient temperature before making any measurements.
- b. A minimum sample of the output of 8 randomly selected dot matrix points over the emitting sign surface must be measured.
- c. The sign dot matrix point luminous intensity and distribution must be per Figure 1.
- d. The luminance ratio of the sign must be between 0.8 and 1.2 where:
  1.  $I_{\text{average}} \div I_n = 0.8 \text{ to } 1.2$
  2.  $I_{\text{average}} =$  average luminance of all samples
  3.  $I_n =$  maximum luminance for all sample points

#### **6.4.3 Dot Matrix Sign Chromaticity.**

The type L-858Ba sign legend must be aviation white and conform to the chromaticity requirements in SAE AS25050, Section 3.1.6, Aviation white, type I(e), when measured at  $\pm 35$  degrees horizontal and vertical.

### **6.5 Dot Matrix Sign Production.**

Production test must be the same as other signs in section 5. In addition, dot matrix signs must be energized for a minimum of 8 hours at 100 percent intensity under normal operating conditions at ambient temperature before shipment. Any dark spots or areas will constitute a failure.



**Figure 1. Dot Matrix Sign Intensity Distribution**

## **SECTION 7. ALDs FOR AIRPORT SIGNS.**

ALD airport signs are lighted fixtures that use an internal lighting source other than incandescent and xenon lamps. Example: LED, cold cathode, etc.

### **7.1 General ALD Airport Sign Requirements.**

ALD signs must meet all the specifications and quality assurance requirements for lighted signs in this document, including the requirements in this section.

### **7.2 Construction.**

Cooling fans must not be used in the sign design.

### **7.3 ALD Sign Power.**

a. ALD signs must be designed to operate and interface with existing airport lighting equipment systems.

b. The interface circuitry (if any) and solid state devices must be designed to withstand and/or include separate surge protection devices which have been tested against defined waveforms detailed in Table 4, Location Category C1 of ANSI/IEEE C62.41-1991 "Recommended Practice on Surge Voltages in Low Voltage AC Power Circuits", namely, 3000 Amps, 8/20us - short circuit current pulse and 6000 Volt, 1.2/50us - open circuit voltage pulse.

#### **7.3.1 ALD Sign Conducted and Radiated Emissions.**

The ALD sign and its circuitry must meet FCC Title 47, Subpart B, Section 15 requirements concerning the emission of electronic noise. Both the conducted and radiation limits must be tested.

#### **7.3.2 Light Module Failures.**

If multiple light devices are combined to produce a single source of light (example: using 15 LEDs combined to make a single light source), the design must ensure the sign meets the requirements in paragraph 7.3.4. All multiple light devices must be randomly connected to ensure that there will be no axial failures in the horizontal or vertical. If less than 25% of the multiple light devices that form a single source fail, the sign must continue to meet the requirements in paragraph 7.3.4. If 25% of the individual light devices used to produce a single light source fail, the operation of the sign must be discontinued per paragraph 3.2.5.7.

#### **7.3.3 Chromaticity.**

a. All signs must meet the chromaticity requirements of this advisory circular for the color of light emitted.

b. Testing must be done spectroradiometrically in increments of 2 nanometers (nm) or less.

#### **7.3.4 ALD Luminance.**

The luminance of an ALD sign must be per paragraph 3.2.5.5 and 3.2.5.6.

#### **7.4 Quality Assurance.**

##### **7.4.1 ALD Photometric Test.**

See paragraphs 4.1.1.3, Lighted Sign Photometric Testing, and 4.1.1.3.3, Lighted Sign Faces. All requirements apply to ALD signs.

##### **7.4.2 High Temperature.**

a. Photometric measurements must be conducted after 15 minutes of operation at ambient temperature and after 4 hours continuous at 131 degrees F (55 degrees C).

b. Manufacturers must ensure the light output of the ALD sign does not decrease more than 30% from the requirements of this AC during high temperature tests.

#### **7.5 ALD Sign Production.**

Alternative light sources must be energized for a minimum of 4 hours at 100 percent intensity at standard ambient temperature before shipment. Any failure within an alternative light source after burn-in will be cause for rejection.

## APPENDIX A – INSCRIPTIONS FOR SIGN FACES

This Appendix shows the shapes of the letters, numbers, and symbols used in inscriptions for sign faces. Letters and Numerals for the Type L-858Y, L-858R and L-858L signs are based on the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Office of Traffic Operations (originally printed when office was part of the Department of Commerce) 1966 Edition Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs, Series D upper case. These characters are shown in exact detail for a two-inch letter height. A one-quarter inch grid superimposed on the letters facilitates the enlarging process.

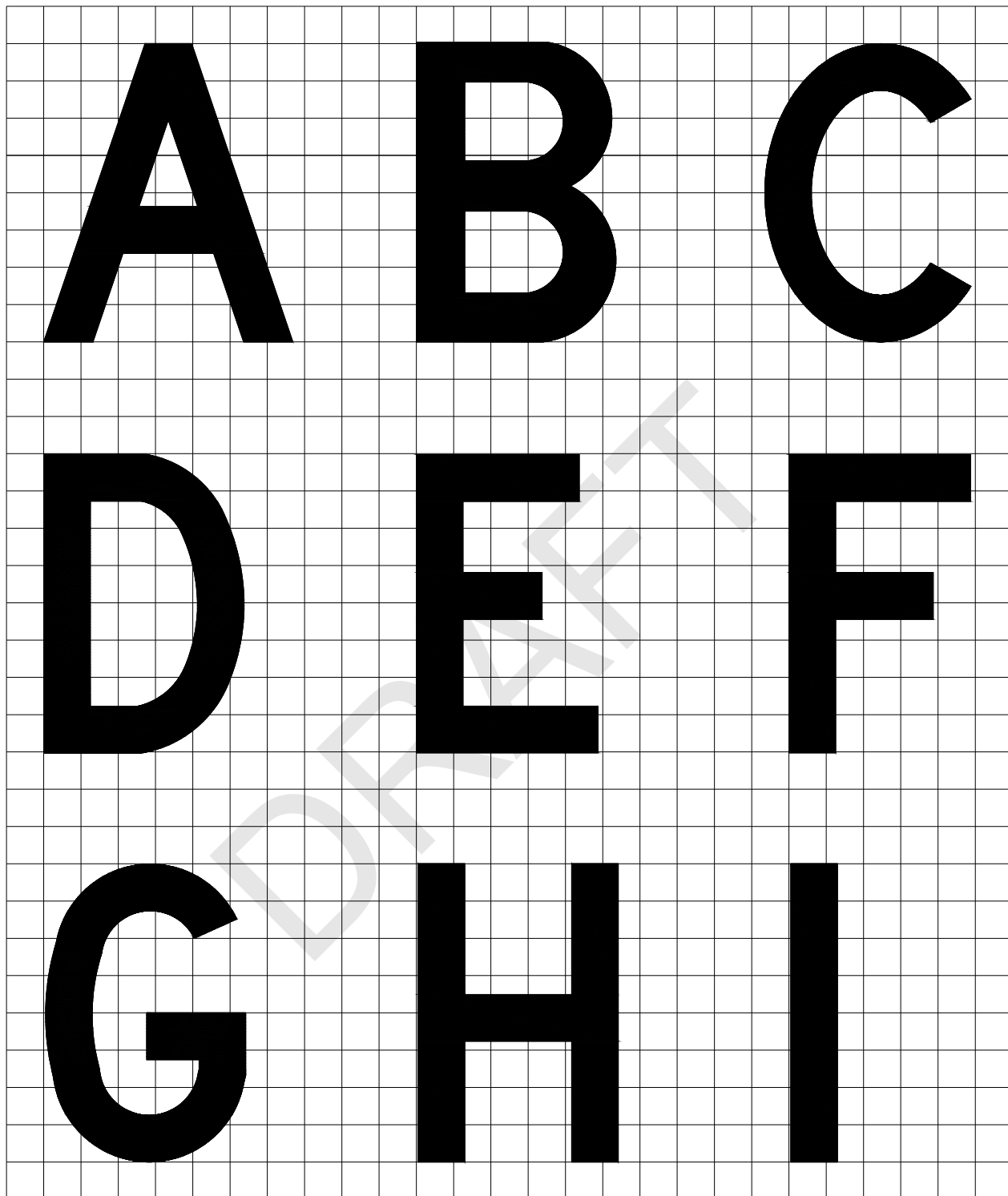
Numerals for the Type L-858B and L-858Ba signs are based upon the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration Office of Traffic Operations 1966 Edition Standard Alphabets for Highway Signs, Series C upper case. These characters are shown in exact detail for a two-inch letter height. A one-quarter inch grid superimposed on the letters facilitates the enlarging process. All characters with an arc at the top or bottom are extended slightly above or below the grid lines. This is a currently accepted practice for rounded letters. All symbols developed by the FAA and are shown with an accompanying table for dimensions.

Example of scaling:

To obtain a twelve-inch letter grid, enlarge the grid squares to one and one-half inches by simple ratio:

$$\frac{0.25}{2} = \frac{X}{12}, \text{ where } x \text{ is the new grid square dimension.}$$

Solve for X = 1.5 inches



**Figure 2. Sign Legend Characters for Size 1, 2, and 3 Signs, Types L-858Y, L-858R and L-858L**

**NOTE:** *Add black outline to letters and numerals for Type L-858R legends per paragraph 1.2.1b.*

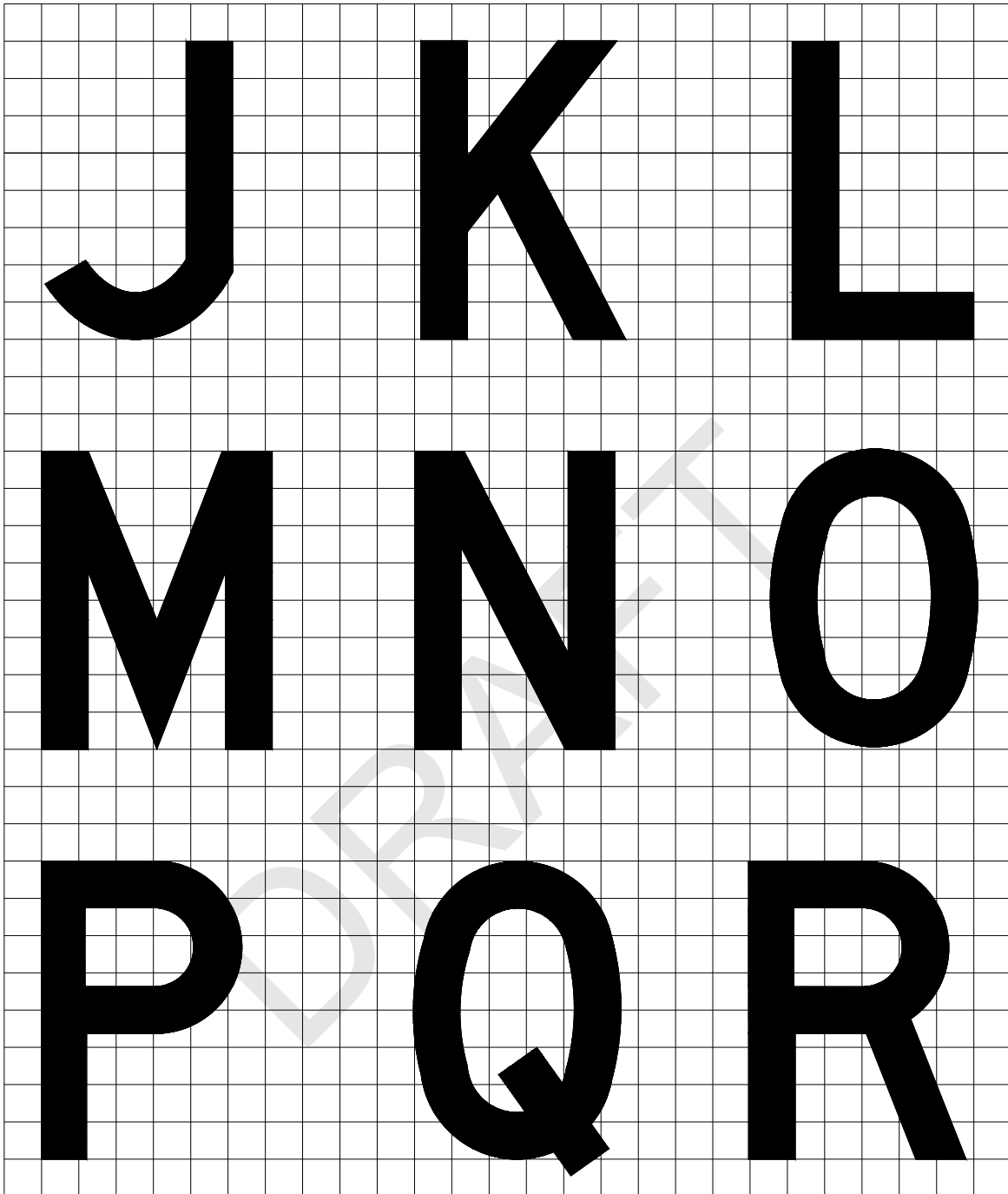
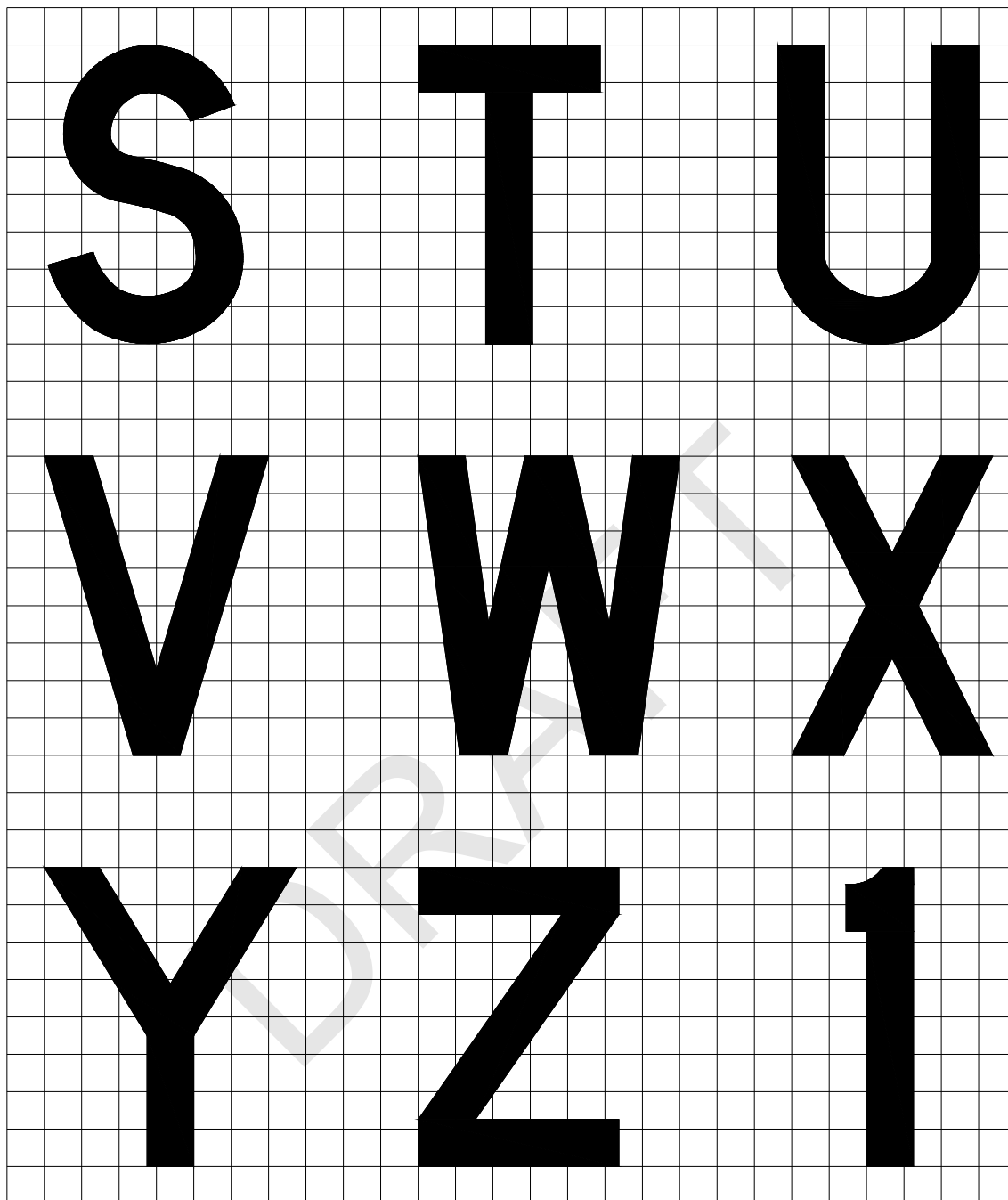


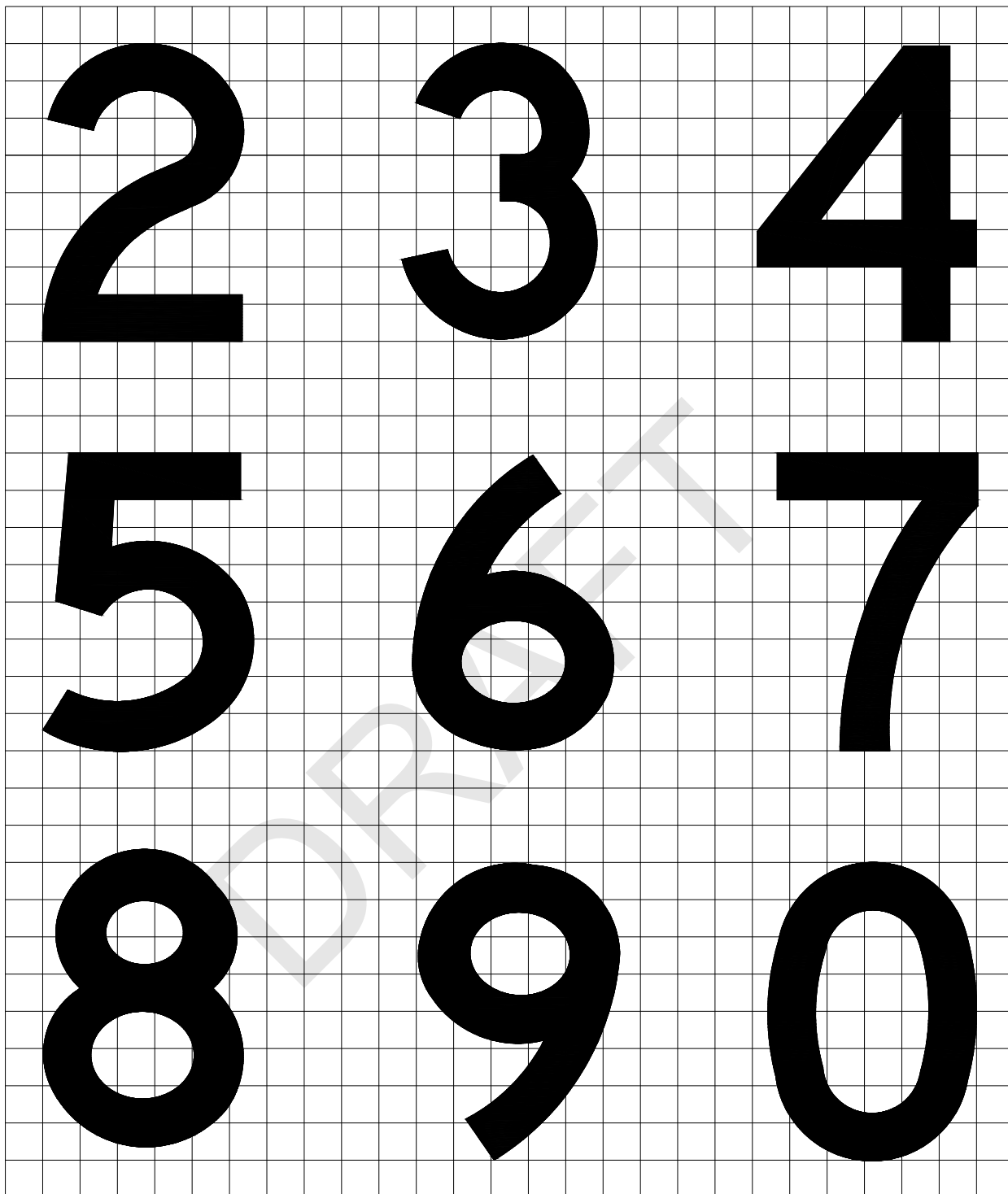
Figure 3. Sign Legend Characters for Size 1, 2, and 3 Signs **Types L-858Y, L-858R and L-858L**

**NOTE:** *Add black outline to letters and numerals for Type L-858R legends per paragraph 1.2.1b.*



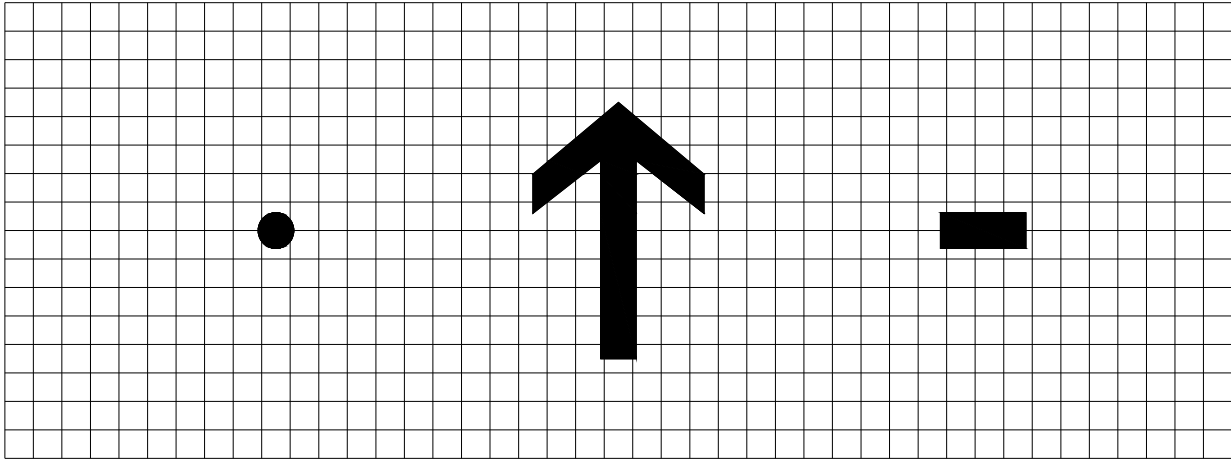
**Figure 4. Sign Legend Characters and Numeral 1 for Size 1, 2, and 3 Signs Types L-858Y, L-858R and L-858L**

**NOTE:** *Add black outline to letters and numerals for Type L-858R legends per paragraph 1.2.1b.*



**Figure 5. Numerals for Size 1, 2, and 3 Signs** **Types L-858Y, L-858R and L-858**

**NOTE:** *Add black outline to numerals for Type L-858R legends per paragraph 1.2.1b.*



**Figure 6. Dot, Arrow, and Dash**

**NOTES:**

- a. The arrow stroke width, diameter of the dot, and both the width and length of the dash must be proportional to the character stroke width defined in Table 7.
  - b. The dimensions of the arrow, without regard to its orientation, must remain the same for all sign types.
  - c. The minimum spacing between a letter or numeral and a dash or dot, or arrow must be 4 inches.\*
    1. For an arrow, the border of the sign must be per the requirements in Table 10 (minimum horizontal spacing between the legend and border or inner edge\*\* of the sign, if no border). See Figure 18 for edge locations.
- \* When a horizontal arrow follows a “W”, the arrow may be spaced from the vertical center of the character.
- \*\* While the standard convention is to stop/start spacing measurements at the inner edge of the sign, the outside edge must be used as the start/stop point only in situations where using the outside edge in the measurement prevents the sign from increasing an additional module length.

**NOTE:** *The following is applicable only to an arrow: For the purposes of retrofit panels only, the minimum spacing goal for an arrow should be 4 inches per Figure 6. If an existing sign frame cannot accommodate this dimension, the arrow may be spaced closer to the character to which the arrow refers to allow fitting a new panel into the frame. However, the retrofitted panel must not adversely affect the overall proportionality or readability of the sign. In addition, the border of the sign must remain per requirements in Table 10 (minimum horizontal spacing between legend and border or sign edge, if no border).*

Use Tables 2 through 6 to determine letter to letter, numeral to numeral, and numeral to letter spacing. Each table applies only to the sign size in the table title. A tolerance of  $\pm 1/4$ -in. (6.4 mm) is allowed.

**Table 2. Character-to-Character Spacing for Size 1 Sign - 12 in. (300 mm) Legend**

Preceding Character	Following Character		
	B D E F H I K L M N P R U 1 5	C G O Q S X Z 2 3 6 8 9 0	A J T V W Y 4 7
A	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
B	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
C	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	1-1/2 (38)
D	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
E	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	1-1/2 (38)
F	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	1-1/2 (38)
G	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
H	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
I	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
J	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
K	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	1-1/2 (38)
L	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
M	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
N	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
O	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
P	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
Q	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
R	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
S	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
T	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
U	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
V	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
W	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
X	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	1-1/2 (38)
Y	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
Z	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	1-1/2 (38)
1	2-13/16 (71)	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)
2	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
3	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
4	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
5	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
6	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
7	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)	3/4 (19)
8	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
9	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)
0	2-13/16 (71)	2-1/4 (57)	2-1/4 (57)

**NOTE:** Dimensions are in inches - dimensions in ( ) are in millimeters

**Table 3. Character to Character Spacing for Size 2 Sign - 15 in. (380 mm) Legend**

Preceding Character	Following Character		
	<b>B D E F H I K L M N P R U 1 5</b>	<b>C G O Q S X Z 2 3 6 8 9 0</b>	<b>A J T V W Y 4 7</b>
<b>A</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>B</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>C</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	1-7/8 (48)
<b>D</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>E</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	1-7/8 (48)
<b>F</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	1-7/8 (48)
<b>G</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>H</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>I</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>J</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>K</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	1-7/8 (48)
<b>L</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>M</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>N</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>O</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>P</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>Q</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (89)
<b>R</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>S</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>T</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>U</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>V</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>W</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>X</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	1-7/8 (48)
<b>Y</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>Z</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	1-7/8 (48)
<b>1</b>	3-1/2 (89)	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>2</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>3</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>4</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>5</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>6</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>7</b>	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)	15/16 (24)
<b>8</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>9</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)
<b>0</b>	3-1/2 (89)	2-7/8 (73)	2-7/8 (73)

**NOTE:** Dimensions are in inches - dimensions in ( ) are in millimeters

**Table 4. Character-to-Character Spacing for Size 3 Sign- 18 inch (460 mm) Legend**

Preceding Character	Following Character		
	B D E F H I K L M N P R U 1 5	C G O Q S X Z 2 3 6 8 9 0	A J T V W Y 4 7
<b>A</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>B</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>C</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>D</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>E</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>F</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>G</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>H</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>I</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>J</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>K</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>L</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>M</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>N</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>O</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>P</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>Q</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>R</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>S</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>T</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>U</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>V</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>W</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>X</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>Y</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>Z</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>1</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>2</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>3</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>4</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>5</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>6</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>7</b>	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)	1-1/8 (29)
<b>8</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>9</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)
<b>0</b>	4-1/4 (108)	3-3/8 (86)	3-3/8 (86)

**NOTE:** Dimensions are in inches - dimensions in ( ) are in millimeters

**Table 5. Character-to-Character Spacing for Size 4 Sign - 40 inch (1020 mm) Legend**

Preceding Character	Following Character		
	<b>B D E F H I K L M N P R U 1 5</b>	<b>C G O Q S X Z 2 3 6 8 9 0</b>	<b>A J T V W Y 4 7</b>
<b>A</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>B</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>C</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	4-7/8 (124)
<b>D</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>E</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	4-7/8 (124)
<b>F</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	4-7/8 (124)
<b>G</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>H</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>I</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>J</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>K</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	4-7/8 (124)
<b>L</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>M</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>N</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>O</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>P</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>Q</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>R</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>S</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>T</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>U</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>V</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>W</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>X</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	4-7/8 (124)
<b>Y</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>Z</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	4-7/8 (124)
<b>1</b>	8-1/4 (210)	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>2</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>3</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>4</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>5</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>6</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>7</b>	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)	2-1/4 (57)
<b>8</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>9</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)
<b>0</b>	8-1/4 (210)	6-3/4 (171)	6-3/4 (171)

**NOTE:** Dimensions are in inches - dimensions in ( ) are in millimeters

**Table 6. Character-to-Character Spacing for Size 5 Sign - 25 in. (640 mm) Legend**

Preceding Character	Following Character		
	B D E F H I K L M N P R U 1 5	C G O Q S X Z 2 3 6 8 9 0	A J T V W Y 4 7
<b>A</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>B</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>C</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3 (76)
<b>D</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>E</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3 (76)
<b>F</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3 (76)
<b>G</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>H</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>I</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>J</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>K</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3 (76)
<b>L</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>M</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>N</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>O</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>P</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>Q</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>R</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>S</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>T</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>U</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>V</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>W</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>X</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3 (76)
<b>Y</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>Z</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	3 (76)
<b>1</b>	5-1/8 (130)	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>2</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>3</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>4</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>5</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>6</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>7</b>	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)	1-3/8 (35)
<b>8</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>9</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)
<b>0</b>	5-1/8 (130)	4-1/4 (108)	4-1/4 (108)

**NOTE:** Dimensions are in inches - dimensions in ( ) are in millimeters

**Table 7. Width of Strokes**

Letter Height (in.) (mm)		Stroke Width (in.) (mm)	
12	304.8	1.88	47.8
15	381.0	2.35	59.7
18	457.2	2.81	71.4
25	635.0	3.53	89.7
40	1016.0	5.64	143.3
<i>Manufacturing Tolerance: <math>\pm 1/16</math>-inch (1.6 mm).</i>			

**Table 8. Width of Letters**

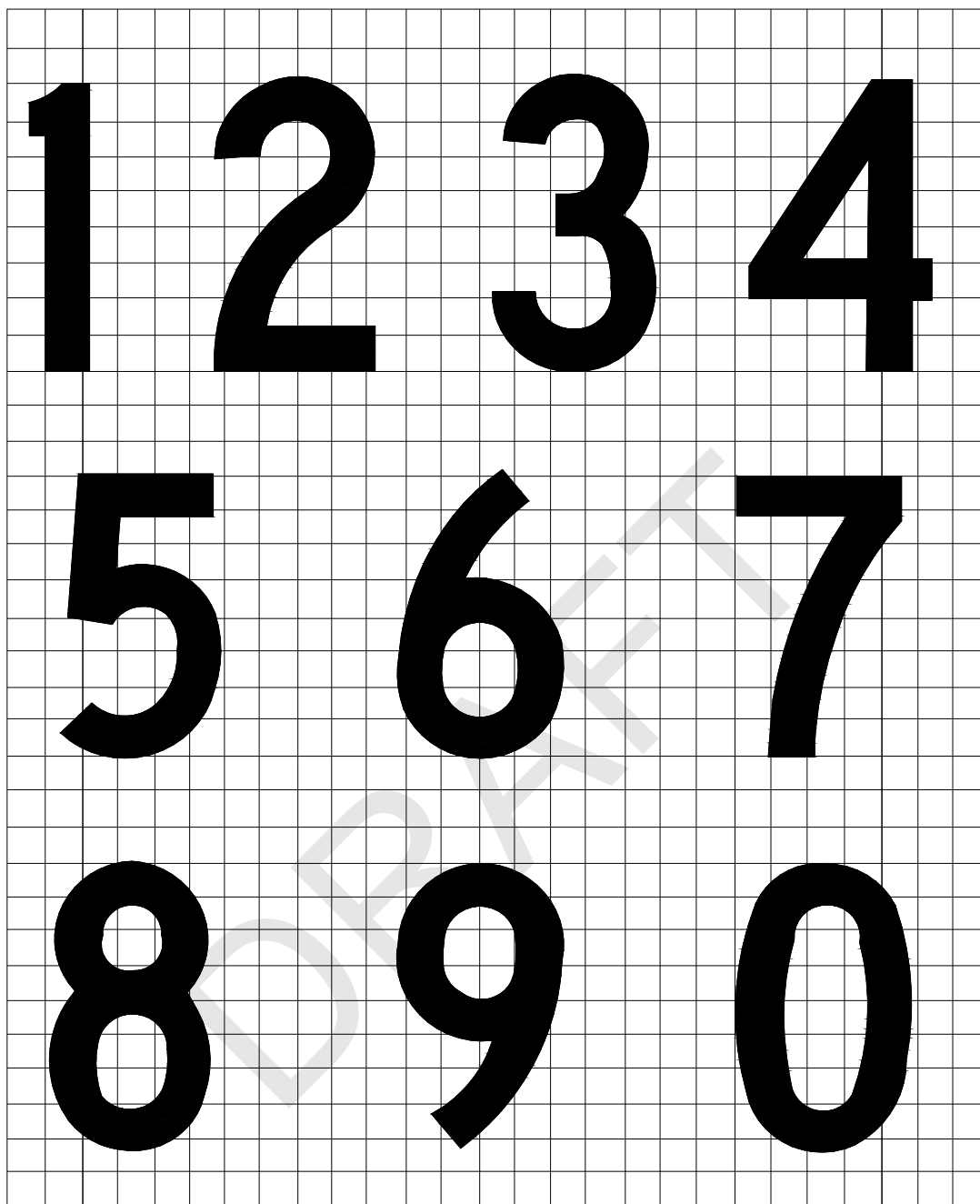
Letter	Letter Height					
	12 in. (305 mm)		15 in. (381 mm)		18 in. (457 mm)	
	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)
A	10.03	254.8	12.55	318.8	15.06	382.5
B	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
C	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
D	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
E	7.31	185.7	9.14	232.2	10.97	278.6
F	7.31	185.7	9.14	232.2	10.97	278.6
G	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
H	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
I	1.88	47.8	2.35	59.7	2.81	71.4
J	7.50	190.5	9.38	238.3	11.25	285.8
K	8.25	209.6	10.32	262.1	12.38	314.5
L	7.31	185.7	9.14	232.2	10.97	278.6
M	9.28	235.7	11.61	294.9	13.94	354.1
N	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
O	8.44	214.4	10.55	268.0	12.66	321.6
P	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
Q	8.44	214.4	10.55	268.0	12.66	321.6
R	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
S	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
T	7.31	185.7	9.14	232.2	10.97	278.6
U	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
V	9.00	228.6	11.25	285.8	13.50	342.9
W	10.50	266.7	13.13	333.5	15.75	400.1
X	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
Y	10.12	257.0	12.66	321.6	15.19	385.8
Z	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1
<i>Manufacturing Tolerance: <math>\pm 1/16</math>-inch (1.6 mm).</i>						

**Table 9. Width of Numerals**

Numeral Height										
Numeral	12 in. (305 mm)		15 in. (381 mm)		18 in. (457 mm)		25 in. (635 mm)		40 in. (1016 mm)	
	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)
1	2.91	73.9	3.65	92.5	4.38	111.3	5.08	129.0	8.12	206.2
2	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
3	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
4	8.81	223.8	11.02	279.9	13.22	335.8	15.23	386.8	24.36	618.7
5	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
6	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
7	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
8	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
9	8.06	204.7	10.08	256.0	12.09	307.1	13.7	348.0	21.88	555.8
0	8.44	214.4	10.55	268.0	12.66	321.6	14.4	365.0	23.12	587.2
<i>Manufacturing Tolerance: <math>\pm 1/16</math>-inch (1.6 mm).</i>										

**Table 10. Lighted and Unlighted Sign Spacing Between Legend and Borders/Message Dividers**

Letter or Numeral Height									
12 in. (305 mm) Size 1		15 in. (381mm) Size 2		18 in. (457 mm) Size 3		25 in. (635 mm) Size 5		40 in. (1016 mm) Size 4	
Minimum horizontal spacing between legend and yellow border for Type L-858L signs with <u>more than one</u> character. See paragraph 3.2.5.4.1 for Type L-858L black margin width. Also applicable to signs with no border. For signs with no border, the distance is measured from the outermost edge of the character to the sign frame inner edge (viewable sign face area.) This measurement does not include the portion of the sign panel that is obscured by the sign frame. See Figure 18 and paragraph 1.2.6, Definitions.									
in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm
1.50	38.1	2.00	50.8	2.50	63.5	3.00	76.2	4.00	101.6
Minimum Horizontal spacing between legend and yellow border for Type L-858L (taxiway location) signs that contain <u>a single letter</u> . <i>Not applicable for 25 in. or 40 in. letters.</i>									
in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm
3.00	76.2	3.50	88.9	4.00	101.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum horizontal spacing between legend and border (or the inner edge of the sign if there is no border - see Figure 18) for type L-858R or L-858L signs that contain <u>a single numeral</u> . <i>Not applicable for 25 in. or 40 in. letters.</i>									
in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm
6.00	152.4	6.50	165.1	7.00	177.8	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Minimum horizontal spacing between legend and message divider. <i>Not applicable for 25 in. or 40 in. letters.</i>									
in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm	in.	mm
3.00	76.2	3.50	88.9	4.00	101.6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<i>A manufacturing tolerance of ± 1/16-inch (1.6 mm) applies to all dimensions.</i>									



**Figure 7. Numerals for Size 4 and 5 Signs (Types L-858B and L-858Ba)**

## APPENDIX B – SIGN LEGENDS

This Appendix shows the dimensions for runway safety area/OFZ, runway approach boundary, ILS critical area, and no entry symbols.

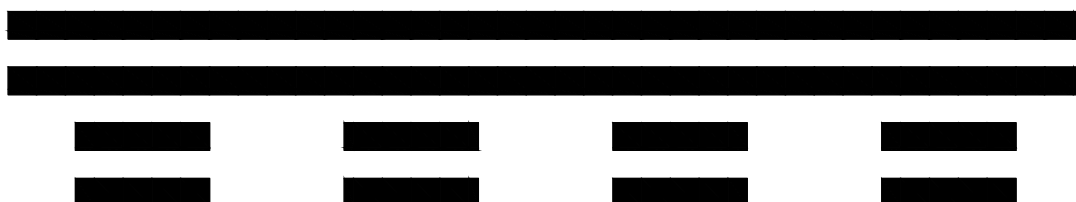


Figure 8. Runway Safety Area/OFZ and Runway Approach Boundary Symbol

Table 11. Dimensions for Runway Safety Area/OFZ and Runway Approach Boundary Signs

Sign Elements	Size 1		Size 2		Size 3	
	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)
Legend Height	9.0	228.8	12.0	304.8	15.0	381.0
Legend Length	57.5	1460.5	73.0	1854.2	84.0	2133.6
Stroke Width	1.29	32.8	1.72	43.7	2.14	54.4
Dash Length	7.18	182.4	9.12	231.6	10.5	266.7
<i>A manufacturing tolerance of 1/16-inch (1.6 mm) applies to all dimensions.</i>						

### NOTES:

- Legend length may vary  $\pm 2$  in. (50.8 mm) as measured from the inside edge or the outside edge of the sign if there is no retaining lip (see Figure 18 for inside and outside edge location).
- Vertical spacing between bars must be equal to the stroke width.
- Horizontal spacing between dashes must be equal to the dash length.
- Dash length and horizontal spacing must vary proportionally to legend length.
- The yellow background of the boundary sign should not extend beyond the ends of the solid horizontal bars.
- The symbol must be centered within the vertical viewable panel area.



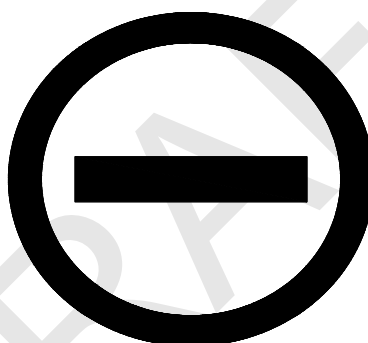
Figure 9. ILS Critical Area Boundary Symbol

**Table 12. Dimensions for ILS Critical Area Boundary Signs**

Sign Elements	Size 1		Size 2		Size 3	
	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)
<b>Legend Height</b>	9.0	228.8	12.0	304.8	15.0	381.0
<b>Legend Length</b>	30.0	762.0	36.0	914.4	42.0	1066.8
<b>Stroke Width</b>	1.29	32.8	1.72	43.7	2.14	54.4
<i>A manufacturing tolerance of 1/16 in. (1.6 mm) applies to all dimensions.</i>						

**NOTES:**

- The legend length may vary  $\pm 2$  in. (50.8 mm) as measured from the inside edge or the outside edge of the sign if there is no retaining lip (see Figure 18 for inside and outside edge location).
- The space within a pair of vertical bars must be equal to the stroke width.
- The space between each pair of vertical bars must vary proportionally to legend length.
- The yellow background of the boundary signs should not extend beyond the ends of the horizontal bars.
- The legend must be centered within the vertical viewable panel area.



**Figure 10. No Entry Symbol**

**NOTES:**

- The symbol must be centered within the vertical viewable panel area.
- This symbol is for Type L-858R legends only. Add black outline per paragraph 1.2.1 b.

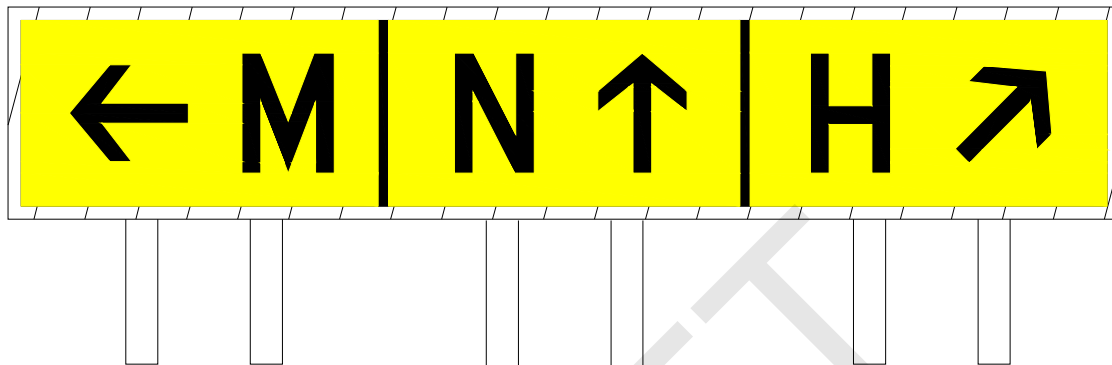
**Table 13. Dimensions for No Entry Signs**

Sign Elements	Size 1		Size 2		Size 3	
	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)	(in.)	(mm)
<b>Minimum Legend Panel Length</b>	24.0	609.6	32.0	812.8	40.0	1016.0
<b>Outer Radius</b>	7.35	186.7	9.75	247.7	12.2	309.9
<b>Inner Radius</b>	6.05	153.7	7.95	201.9	10.0	254.0
<b>Dash Length</b>	9.3	236.2	12.4	315.0	15.5	393.7
<b>Dash Width</b>	2.0	50.8	2.7	68.6	3.3	83.8
<i>A manufacturing tolerance of 1/16 in. (1.6 mm) applies to all dimensions.</i>						

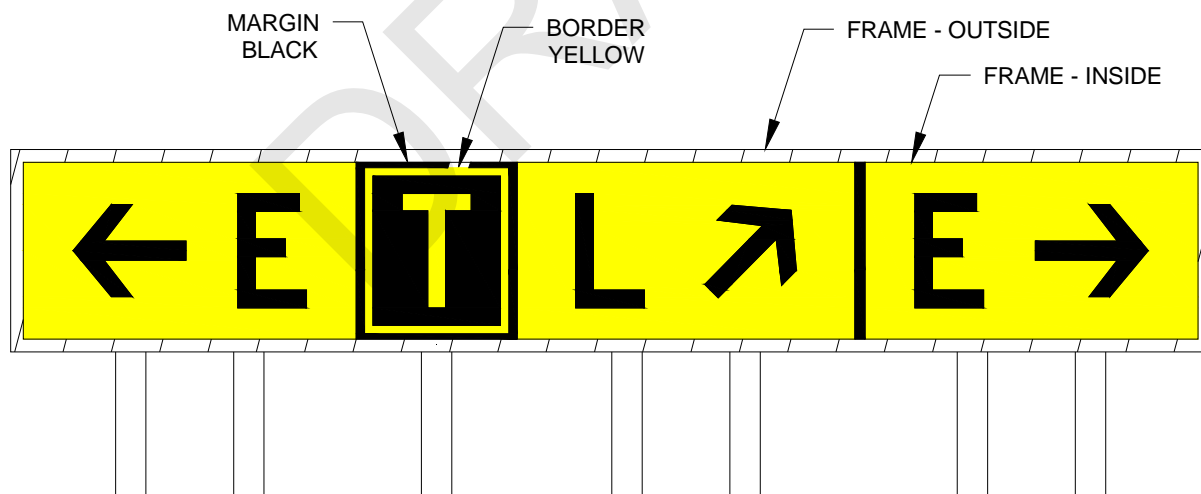
## APPENDIX C – SIGN ARRAYS (LIGHTED SIGNS)

This Appendix represents typical installations of signs containing multiple message elements and sign types.

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.



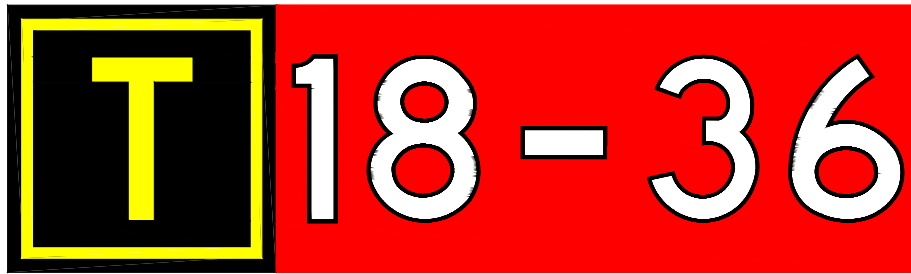
Type L-858Y direction sign array composed of three message elements separated by message dividers. On modular signs, the message dividers may be coincident with panel joints. [See paragraph 3.2.5.2b for guidance about the separation distance between message elements.](#) [See paragraph 3.2.5.4.2c for lighted message divider widths.](#)



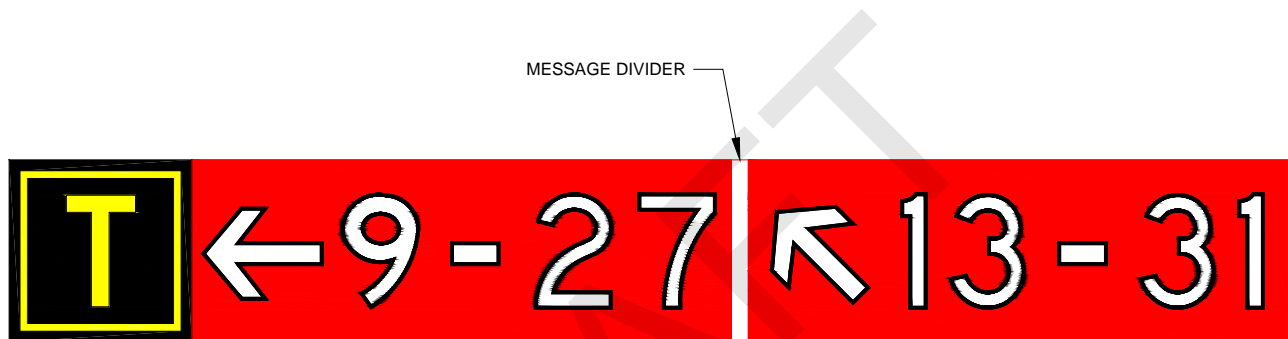
Sign array that has three L-858Y (Taxiway Direction) signs separated by an L-858L (Taxiway Location) sign. Note that on the right hand side of the sign array that the two message elements are separated by a black message divider. [See paragraph 3.2.5.4.1 for Lighted Type L-858L Borders and Margins.](#)

**Figure 11. Lighted Sign Array Examples**

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.



Example of a sign that contains two message elements. Note black outline on L-858R white legend.



Example of a sign array that contains three message elements: a Type L-858L taxiway location sign and two L-858R mandatory instruction signs. See paragraph 3.2.5.4.2 for additional information about message dividers.

**Figure 12. Lighted Sign Array Examples**

**APPENDIX D – SIGN ARRAYS (UNLIGHTED SIGNS)**

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.

This Appendix represents typical installations of signs containing multiple message elements and sign types.



A sign array that contains two Type L-858Y direction signs separated by a Type L-858L taxiway location sign. The Type L-858Y signs on the right contain two message elements separated by a message divider. See paragraph 3.2.5.2b for guidance about the separation distance between message elements. Reference paragraph 3.2.6.7 for unlighted sign message dividers.

Note the radius on sign corners (paragraph 3.2.6.5i) and square corners on yellow L-858L border.



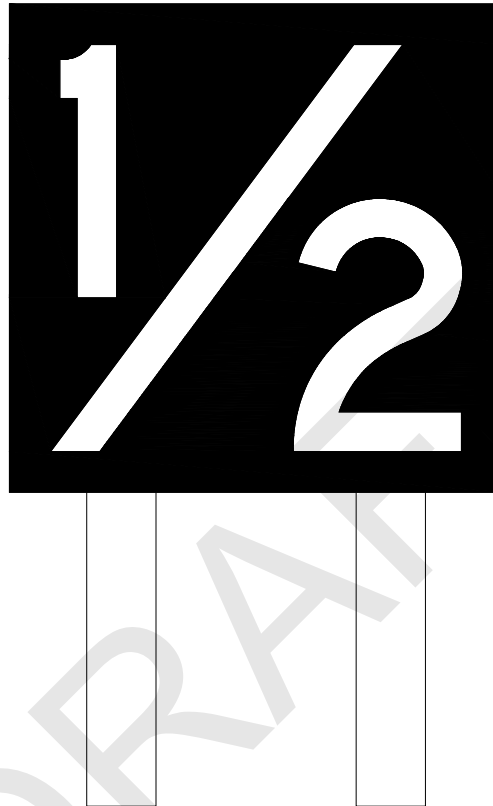
Sign array composed of multiple signs: a Type L-858L taxiway location sign and an L858R mandatory instruction sign. When multiple unlighted signs are used, see paragraph 3.2.6.6e for the separation distance between legend panels. See paragraph 3.2.6.6 for Unlighted Type L-858L Borders and Margins.

**Figure 13. Unlighted Sign Array Examples**

## APPENDIX E – ONE-HALF RUNWAY DISTANCE REMAINING SIGN

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.

Overall sign dimensions are in paragraph 1.2.2 and Table 1.



**Figure 14. One-Half Distance Remaining Sign, Type L-858H**

**NOTE:** *Type L858H signs must not be used in combination with L-858B, Runway Distance Remaining signs.*

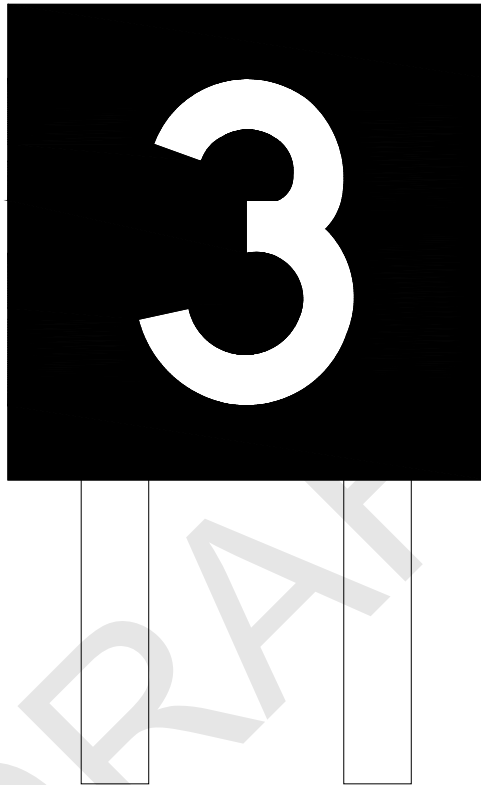
**Dimensions:**

Numeral height:	15 in (381 mm).
Numeral stroke width:	per Table 7.
Angle of slash:	20 degrees.
Slash stroke width:	same as stroke width for numerals.
Horizontal spacing between slash and upper numeral:	4 in. (102 mm) at closest point.
Horizontal spacing between slash and lower numeral:	4 in. (102 mm) at closest point.
Total legend height:	25 in. (635 mm), 2.5 in. (63.5 mm) from panel top and bottom.

## APPENDIX F – RUNWAY DISTANCE REMAINING SIGN

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.

Overall sign dimensions are in paragraph 1.2.2 and Table 1.

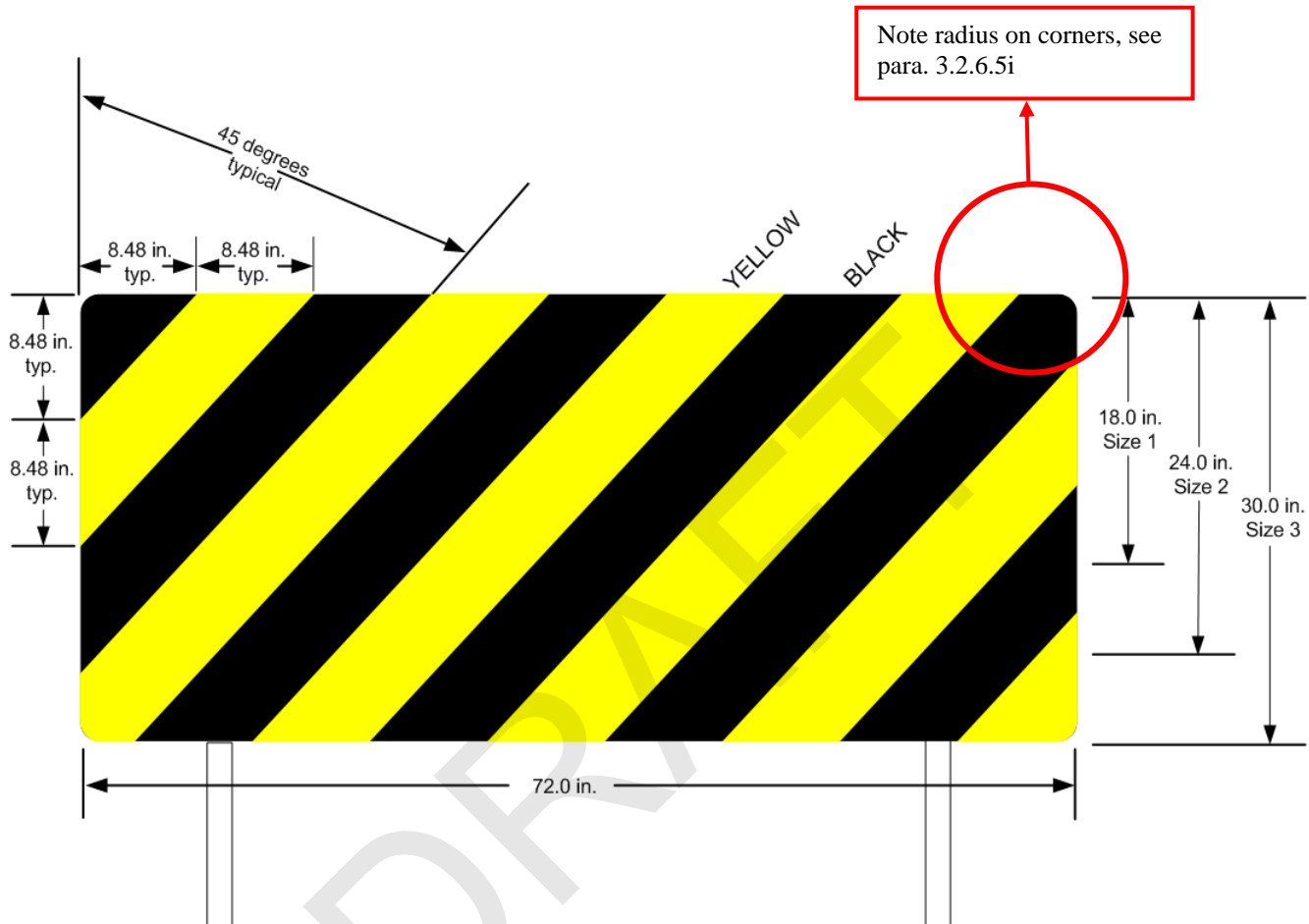


**Figure 15. Runway Distance Remaining Sign, Type L-858B, L-858B(a) Dot Matrix**

**NOTE:** *Sign must be Size 4 or 5.*

## APPENDIX G – TAXIWAY ENDING MARKERS (UNLIGHTED SIGNS)

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.



8.48 in. = 215 mm

24.0 in. = 610 mm

72.0 in. = 1.83 meters

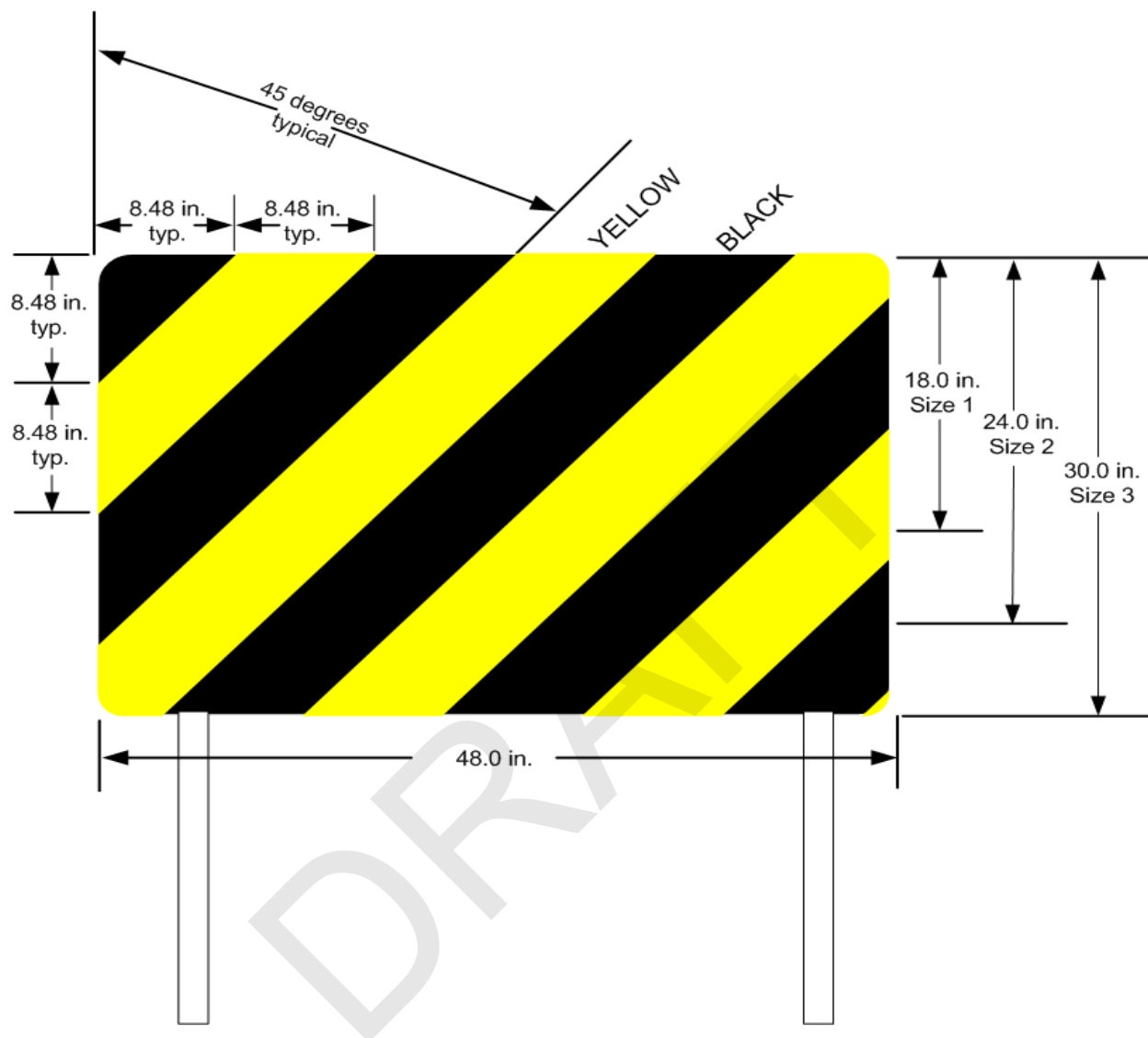
18.0 in. = 457 mm

30.0 in. = 762 mm

**Figure 16. Type L-858C, 72.0 Inch Taxiway Ending Marker Signs**

**NOTE:** This sign may be furnished as a lighted sign without the radius corners. Dimensions for sign width/ height, stripes, dimensions, and angles remain the same as those for an unlighted sign.

Figures are examples only and not drawn to scale.



8.48 in. = 215 mm

24.0 in. = 610 mm

72.0 in. = 1.83 meters

18.0 in. = 457 mm

30.0 in. = 762 mm

**Figure 17. Type L-858C, 48.0 Inch Taxiway Ending Marker**

**NOTE:** This sign may be furnished as a lighted sign without the radius corners. Dimensions for sign width/ height, stripes, dimensions, and angles remain the same as those for an unlighted sign.

## APPENDIX H – TYPICAL SIGN AND COMPONENT PARTS

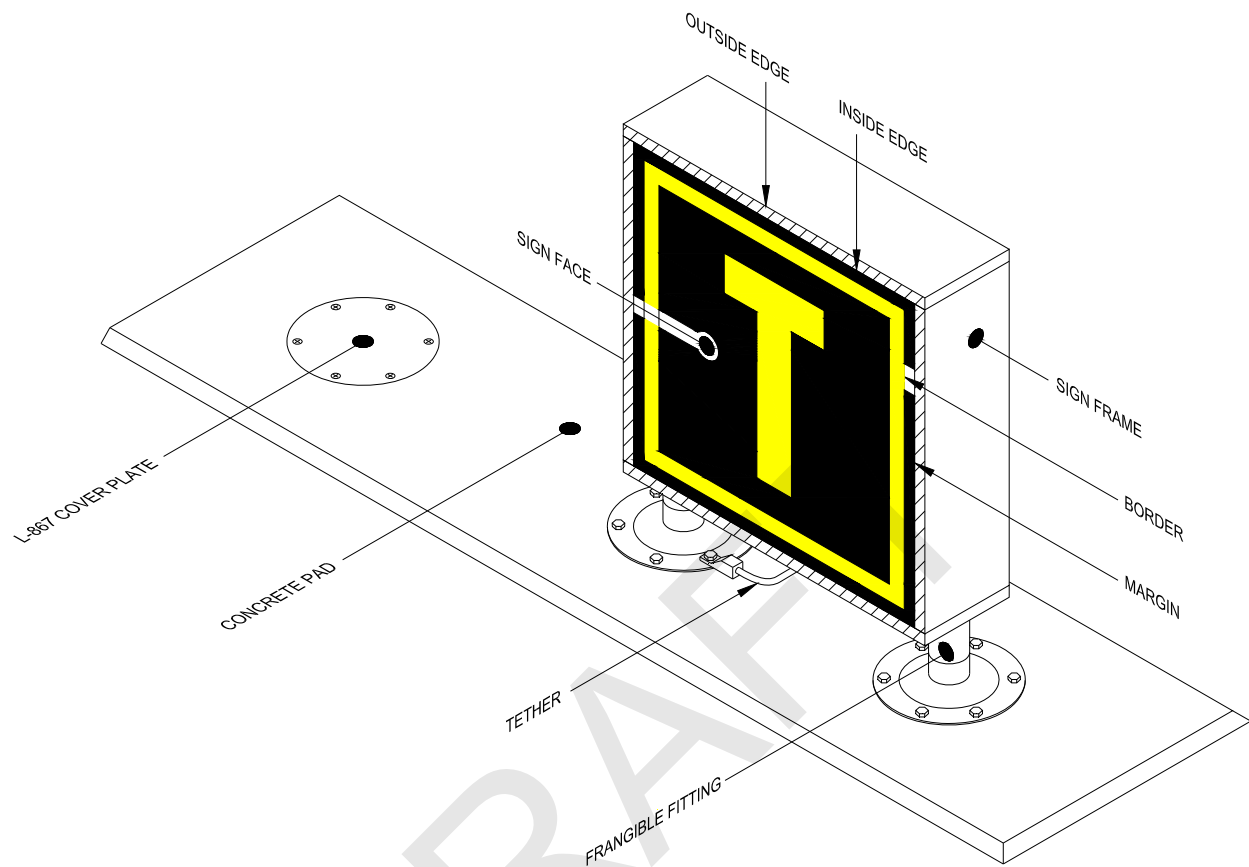
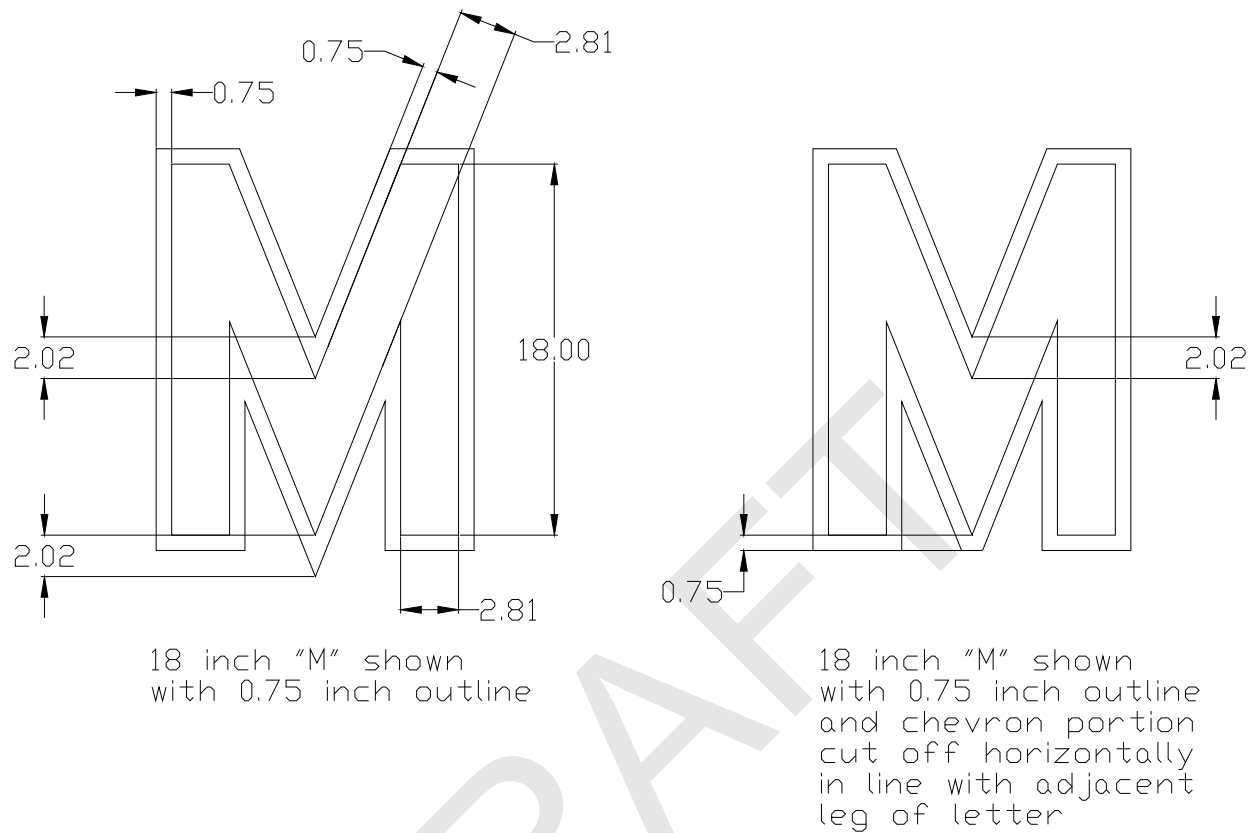


Figure 18. Typical Sign and Component Parts

**APPENDIX I – EXAMPLE OF LETTER “M” BLACK OUTLINE****Figure 19. Letter "M" Black Outline**