



Technical Guidance Note:

GLASS MANIFESTATION COMPLIANCE

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The British Sign and Graphics Association



British Sign
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CONTENT:

1

KEY_REGULATIONS_and_
GUIDANCE: UNITED KINGDOM

2

NON_COMPLIANCE_WITH_
GLAZING_MANIFESTATION_
REGULATIONS:

3

MANIFESTATION_DESIGN_
PRACTICES:

4

UNITED_KINGDOM_
REGULATIONS_and_
GUIDELINES_VERSES_
EUROPEAN_STANDARDS:

5

EUROPEAN_SUMMARY:

6

BSGA_CONTACT_DETAILS:

Equality Act 2010:

Requires manifestations to provide adequate contrast and be detectable by individuals with partial sight.

BS 6262-4:2005 - Code of Practice for Glazing:

Offers detailed guidance on safety glazing and effective manifestation practices.

Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992:

States marking or safeguarding transparent surfaces to prevent injuries.

Building Regulations 2010: Part K and Part M:

Part K mandates manifestations in critical locations, such as glazing between floor level and 800mm or doors/panels within 300mm of doors up to 1500mm.

Part M focuses on accessibility and requires glass entrances and screens to be clearly defined with manifestations at two levels: 850-1000mm and 1400-1600mm above the floor.

Manifestations must be clearly visible, contrast with the background, and be visible under all lighting conditions.

KEY REGULATIONS and GUIDANCE...

Within the United Kingdom, glazing manifestations are regulated to primarily to ensure the safety of individuals by making glass areas visible and thereby, reducing the risk of accidental collisions.

These regulations specify how and where manifestations must be applied, focussing on visibility, contrast, and usability for everyone, including individuals with visual impairments.

Building Regulations 2010: Part K and Part M

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/protection-from-falling-collision-and-impact-approved-document-k>

Equality Act 2010:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/equality-act-2010-guidance>

Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992:

[Workplace \(Health, Safety and Welfare\) Regulations 1992:](#)

BS 6262-4:2005 - Code of Practice for Glazing:

<https://knowledge.bsigroup.com/products/glazing-for-buildings-code-of-practice-for-safety-related-to-human-impact-1?version=standard>



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NON-COMPLIANCE WITH GLAZING MANIFESTATION REGULATIONS...

Can lead to **penalties** under health and safety laws, **claims** under the **Equality Act**, and **enforcement notices** in conjunction with building regulations.

This can result in fines, legal action, and reputational damage.

Ensuring compliance promotes safety, accessibility, and helps businesses minimise liability and legal risks.

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MANIFESTATION DESIGN PRACTICES...



Dots - Squares and Decorative Patterns are frequently used.



Frosted media or etching are a popular choice of finish to achieve compliance.



Corporate branding - Logos - creative designs are acceptable, provided they meet the size and contrast criteria.



If using full colour digital print media, ensure the colour and opacity created provides adequate contrast for visibility.



KEY POINTS OF COMPLIANCE : DESIGN PROPOSAL:



Simplicity:

Continuous patterns and positioned across critical height bands.



Visibility:

Frosted elements provide a subtle yet, highly visible solution.



Aesthetics and Functionality:

Unobtrusive compliance for modern environments.



Unique requirements for the space:

Frequent footfall with additional accessibility needs.
Add contrast or tactile elements thoughtfully.

United Kingdom Regulations and Guidelines verses European Standards...

EU standards for glazing manifestations, as these regulations are often similar to or influenced by the United Kingdom's regulations.

However, specific compliance will depend on the EU country in question, as each member state implements EU Directives in its own way.

Below is an overview of how these designs meet common EU standards:

Key EU Standards and Directives:

EU Directive 89/654/EEC – Workplace Health and Safety:

This requires that transparent or glass surfaces in workplaces be made visible to prevent accidents.

Manifestations like frosted lines, dots, or squares clearly indicate glass surfaces, meeting the directive's requirements.

EN 12600 – Glass in Building (Pendulum Test Standard):

This standard ensures that safety glass is used in critical areas. While this relates more to the type of glass, the presence of visible manifestations further reduces risks.

Accessibility Standards (influenced by EU law):

Many EU countries align with the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) and implement national accessibility standards.

Simple and visible manifestations like the ones shown are accessible to individuals with visual impairments and ensure compliance with these principles.

Height and Visibility Alignment:

EU countries also require visible markings at two height levels for accessibility and safety, typically - 850-1000mm and 1400-1600mm.

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EUROPEAN SUMMARY...

THE DESIGNS COMPLY WITH GENERAL EU SAFETY AND ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR GLAZING MANIFESTATIONS. HOWEVER, FOR FULL ASSURANCE, CONFIRM LOCAL REQUIREMENTS IN THE SPECIFIC EU COUNTRY WHERE THE PROJECT IS LOCATED.

GERMANY for example:
Glazing manifestation requirements are addressed through a combination of national standards and European norms aimed at ensuring safety and accessibility. Here's how designs align

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RELEVANT STANDARDS IN GERMANY:

DIN 18040 – Barrier-Free Construction:

This standard emphasizes accessibility, requiring that transparent glazing be clearly identifiable to prevent accidents, particularly for individuals with visual impairments.

DIN 18055 – Criteria for the Application of Windows and External Doors:

Specifies performance requirements for windows and doors, including aspects related to safety and usability.

EN 12600 – Glass in Building (Pendulum Test):

A European standard adopted in Germany, it classifies glass by its performance under impact, ensuring that glazing in critical areas is safe.



RECOMMENDATIONS:

Consult Local Building Codes:

While national standards provide a framework, local building codes may have additional or specific requirements.

It is advisable to consult with local building authorities or a German architect to ensure full compliance with regional regulations.

Consider User Demographics:

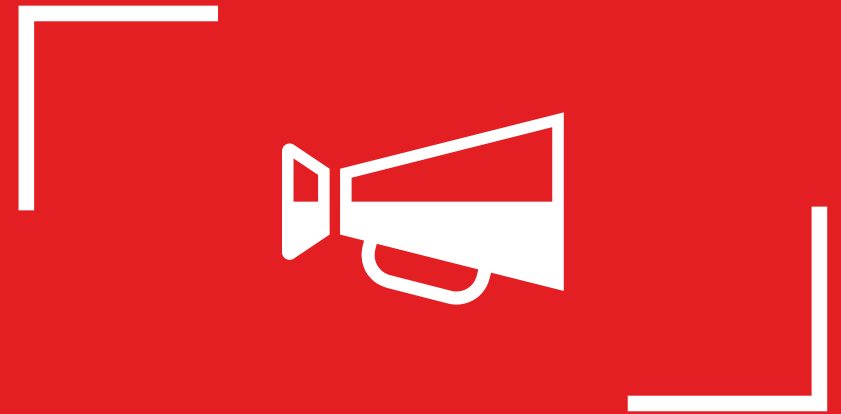
If the building is frequented by individuals with visual impairments, enhancing contrast or incorporating tactile elements could further improve safety and accessibility.

By adhering to these guidelines and considering local regulations, your designs should comply with German standards

For example: for glazing manifestations, ensuring both safety and accessibility.

CONTACT THE **BSGA TEAM** IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CHECK FOR ANY COUNTRY-SPECIFIC DETAILS!

*Note: each area in the EU may have a different standard and should be checked accordingly.



ANY QUESTIONS..?



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