



The British Sign and Graphics Association

Northgate Business Centre
Northgate
Newark
Nottinghamshire
NG24 1EZ



KNOWLEDGEHUB: TRADITIONAL NEON and LED BASED SIGNAGE COMPLIANCE

WHY?

This FACT SHEET has been created by The British Sign and Graphics Association to:

Raise Awareness:

Emphasise the importance of traditional Neon and LED based signage for safety, legal compliance, and accessibility.

Guide Compliance:

Share clear, concise guidance on achieving regulatory standards.

Promote Best Practices:

Highlight creative, functional solutions that balance safety with design.

Set Standards:

Establish benchmarks for safety, quality, and accessibility within the industry.

Provide Clarity:

Support industry stakeholders to align work activities with applicable regulations and end user requirements.

DISCLAIMER:

This document has been produced by the British Sign & Graphics Association (BSGA) for general guidance and advisory purposes only. It is intended to help clarify relevant COMPLIANCE, GOVERNANCE, legislation, standards, and best practice within the sign and graphics industry.

While the content is published in good faith, it is provided without liability and is not intended to constitute or substitute legal advice. The application and interpretation of compliance, governance, legislation and laws can vary depending on the specific circumstances. Therefore, users are strongly advised to seek appropriate professional or legal advice before acting or refraining from action based on the information contained in this document.

BSGA will not be liable for any decision made or action taken in reliance on this guidance, nor for any consequential, special, or similar damages, even if advised of the possibility of such damages. All information is believed to be accurate at the time of publication; however, the BSGA accepts no responsibility for any errors or omissions, or for any loss or damage arising from reliance on the content.

All copyright and intellectual property rights in this document are owned by the BSGA. You may download and print this document for internal, non-profit use within your organisation. However, it must not be copied, reproduced, sold, distributed, or used for commercial gain, nor shared with third parties outside your organisation without the prior written consent of the BSGA.

Correct: September_2025
Created: David Derbyshire: Technical_Committee_Chair
Linda_Edwards_Managing_Director



0845 338 3016



ask@uksigns.org



<https://uksigns.org/>



CHAMPION
COLLABORATE
COMMUNICATE
COMMUNITY
COMPLIANCE

FEATURE:	TRADITIONAL NEON:	ACRYLIC LED SIGNAGE:	FLEXIBLE LED SIGNAGE:
			
MATERIAL:	GLASS TUBING.	CNC ACRYLIC.	SILICONE OR RESIN ON ACRYLIC / ALUMINUM.
LIGHT SOURCE:	ELECTRIFIED GASES. NEON FOR RED. ARGON WITH PHOSPHOR FOR COLOURS.	LED.	LED.
CRAFTSMANSHIP:	SKILLED: HAND FORMED.	MACHINE: ROUTED ASSEMBLY.	MODULAR ASSEMBLY.
APPEARANCE:	ORGANIC: VARIED 360 DEGREE GLOW.	SHARP. UNIFORM.	FLAT. DIFFUSED.
DURABILITY:	10 - 30 YEARS .	5 - 14 YEARS.	2 - 5 YEARS.
LABEL AS:	NEON.	ACRYLIC LED SIGNAGE.	FLEXIBLE LED SIGNAGE.

It is our belief that traditional glass neon will continue to evolve as a form of creative practice. Whilst its role in large-scale commercial signage may remain limited, its presence in retail, hospitality, interior design, and the art world is likely to evolve. The BSGA considers that there is great potential to be harnessed in the collaboration between traditional sign makers and contemporary designers, between digital platforms and physical installations, and between regulators and craftspeople. Innovation within heritage presents exciting opportunities, and we are optimistic about the future. Neon may be niche, but it is far from obsolete. It has simply found new avenues where its beauty and history can continue to be celebrated and shine!

Neon Craftsmanship:
Protecting an Industry Icon.

As the United Kingdom’s regulatory body for the signage and graphics industry, the British Sign and Graphics Association (BSGA) is committed to **preserving** and **promoting** the **rich heritage** of traditional glass neon sign making - a craft that remains integral to the visual, creative, and cultural identity of our sector.

In recent decades, the United Kingdom’s (UK) signage industry has witnessed **neon evolve** from a commercial mainstay to a specialised art form. Whilst its market share may have decreased with the **rise of new technologies**, its **cultural** and **aesthetic value** has grown significantly. Today, neon is a niche yet, vital component of our signage community, championed by those who value craftsmanship, artistry, and design excellence.

Neon craftsmanship is more than a production method; it is an art form steeped in **tradition**, requiring **exceptional skill** in glass manipulation, temperature control, and gas reactions.

Forming part of our ongoing commitment to protecting the craft of neon, the BSGA has a long-standing history of **advocacy**. Notably, during the introduction of the **Restriction of Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive**, the BSGA Team successfully lobbied to secure an **exemption** for traditional neon signage. This critical exemption ensured the controlled use of mercury - a key component for producing certain colours - could continue under **strict regulation**.

Visit our website: Technical Guidance: **TRADITIONAL NEON** and **LED SIGNAGE COMPLIANCE** for more information.