

# GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING SIGN SHEETING TO MEET MINA RETROREFLECTIVITY LEVELS

Interested in more information? The guidelines can be purchased through TAC

Generally, sheeting types II or higher meet the minimum

environments and areas where there is roadway lighting. Type

IV or higher is required for environments with high background

retroreflectivity requirements for warning signs in dark

SAMPLE FROM GUIDELINES:

complexity and no roadway lighting.

WARNING SIGNS (WA, WB, WC)

Current Practice:



## WHAT IS RETROREFLECTIVITY?

Efficiency of a sign at returning light to a vehicle

Light out from the sign = "Efficiency" or R Light in from the headlamps

Higher  $R_A$  = Brighter Sign at Night



# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

A key factor affecting the legibility of signs at night Others include:

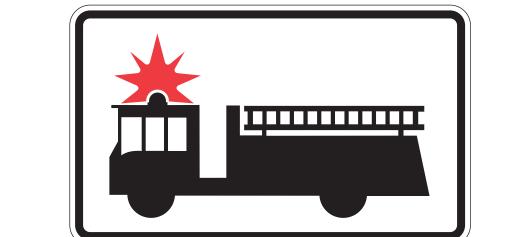
Driver Age

- Sign Colour and Contrast
- Legend Type Symbol or Text

Level of Background Lighting

- Generally, higher numbered sheeting types are used for warning signs compared to regulatory signs.
- All but two agencies use Type III or higher as a minimum for all categories of warning signs;
- Higher sheeting types are used for WC signs than for WA and WB signs.
- Type IV is the most common sheeting used as a minimum for warning signs followed by types XI and IX.

Minimum retroreflectivity levels and applicable sheeting types are provided in the following table for black on yellow signs.



# SIGN VISIBILITY UNDER DIFFERENT LEVELS OF BACKGROUND LIGHTING



Dark Roads

Roads with street lights

Roads with no street lighting but other roadside lighting present

# MINIMUM R, VALUES AND SHEETING TYPES FOR WA, WB, & WC BLACK **ON YELLOW SIGNS**

Sheeting Types to Meet Minimum Retroreflectivity Levels (R)

WA, WB, and WC **Black on Yellow Signs** 





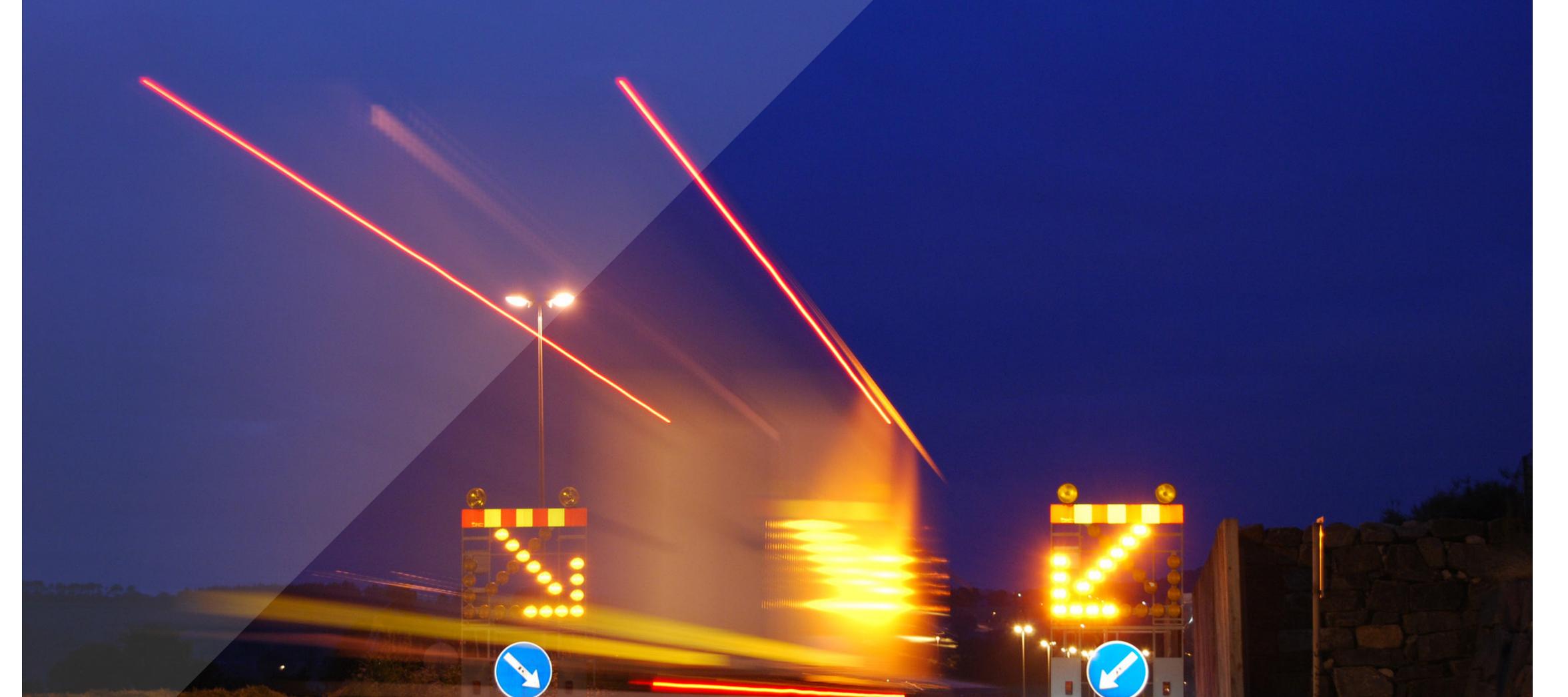


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Environment	Minimum R <sub>A</sub>	ASTM Sheeting Type
1. Dark Roads	75	II or higher
2. Roads with street lights	90	II or higher
3. Roads with no street lighting but other roadside lighting	270	IV or higher

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Transport Canada

and Works

- Alberta Transportation
- Manitoba Infrastructure and Transportation
- Ministry of Transportation, Ontario
- Ministère of Transports du Québec
- New Brunswick Department of Transportation
- Newfoundland and Labrador Transportation
- Nova Scotia Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal

- Saskatchewan Highways and Infrastructure
- Yukon Highways and Public Works;
- City of Edmonton
- City of Ottawa
- Corporation of the City of Cambridge
- Halifax Regional Municipality
- Ville de Montréal
- International Municipal Signal Association



