

2. LATERAL MARKS

2.1. Definition of "conventional direction of buoyage"

The "conventional direction of buoyage", which must be indicated in appropriate nautical documents, may be either:

- 2.1.1. The general direction taken by the mariner when approaching a harbour, river, estuary or other waterway from seaward, or
- 2.1.2. The direction determined by the proper authority in consultation, where appropriate, with neighbouring countries. In principle it should follow a clockwise direction around land masses.

2.2. Buoyage Regions

There are two international Buoyage Regions A and B where lateral marks differ. These buoyage regions are indicated in Section 8.

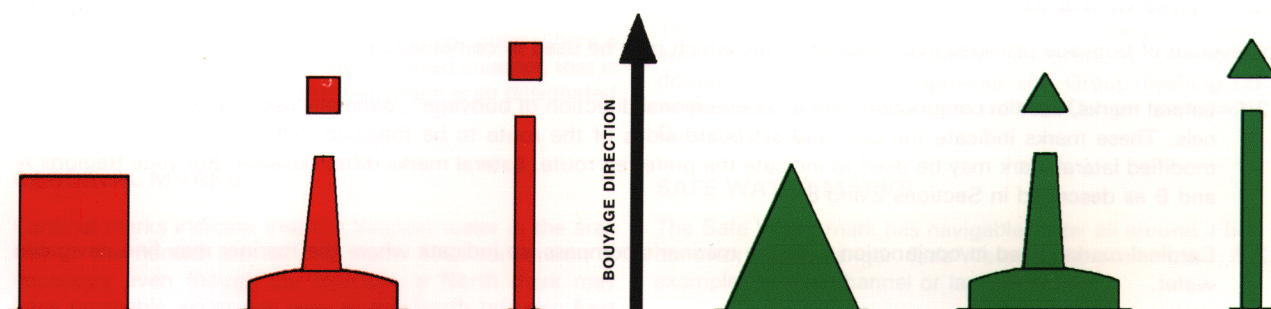
2.3. Description of Lateral Marks used in Region A

2.3.1. Port hand Marks

Colour : Red
Shape (Buoys) : Cylindrical (can), pillar or spar
Topmark (if any) : Single red cylinder (can)
Light (when fitted) :
Colour : Red
Rhythm : Any, other than that described in section 2.3.3.

2.3.2. Starboard hand Marks

Colour : Green
Shape (Buoys) : Conical, pillar or spar
Topmark (if any) : Single green cone, point upward
Light (when fitted) :
Colour : Green
Rhythm : Any, other than that described in section 2.3.3.



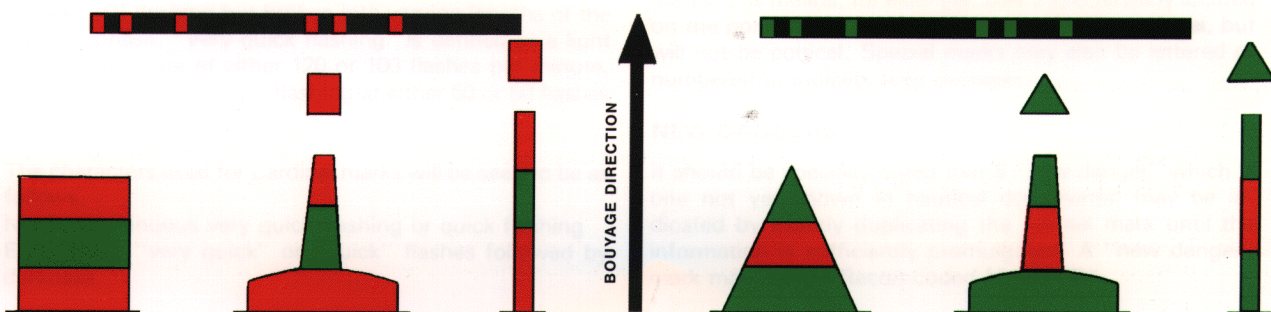
2.3.3. At the point where a channel divides, when proceeding in the "conventional direction of buoyage", a preferred channel may be indicated by a modified Port or Starboard lateral mark as follows:

2.3.3.1. Preferred channel to Starboard :

Colour : Red with one broad green horizontal band
Shape (Buoys) : Cylindrical (can), pillar or spar
Topmark (if any) : Single red cylinder (can)
Light (when fitted) :
Colour : Red
Rhythm : Composite group flashing (2 + 1)

2.3.3.2. Preferred channel to Port :

Colour : Green with one broad red horizontal band
Shape (Buoys) : Conical, pillar or spar
Topmark (if any) : Single green cone, point upward
Light (when fitted) :
Colour : Green
Rhythm : Composite group flashing (2 + 1)



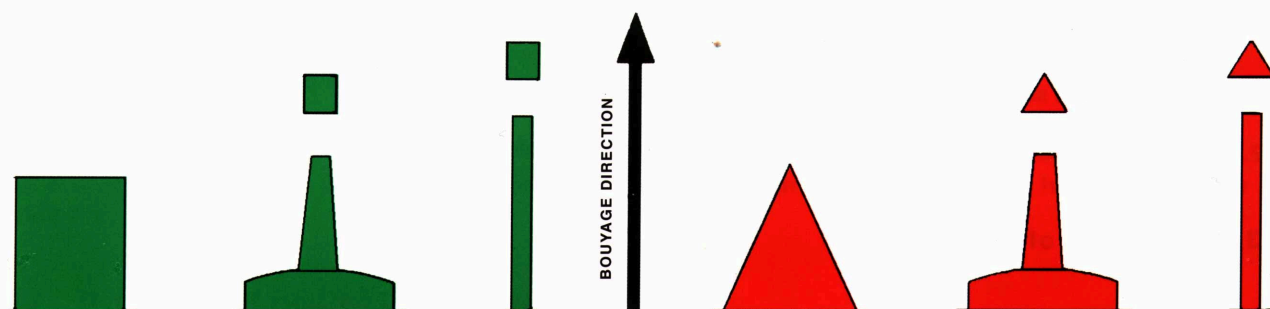
2.4. Description of Lateral Marks used in Region B

2.4.1. Port hand Marks

Colour : Green
 Shape (Buoys) : Cylindrical (can), pillar or spar
 Topmark (if any) : Single green cylinder (can)
 Light (when fitted) :
 Colour : Green
 Rhythm : Any, other than that described in section 2.4.3.

2.4.2. Starboard hand Marks

Colour : Red
 Shape (Buoys) : Conical, pillar or spar
 Topmark (if any) : Single red cone, point upward
 Light (when fitted) :
 Colour : Red
 Rhythm : Any, other than that described in section 2.4.3.



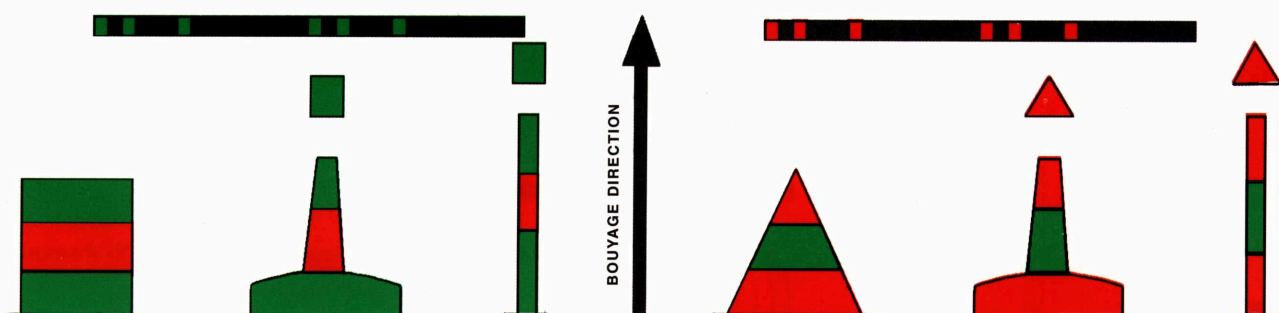
2.4.3. At the point where a channel divides, when proceeding in the "conventional direction of buoyage", a preferred channel may be indicated by a modified Port or Starboard lateral mark as follows:

2.4.3.1. Preferred channel to Starboard :

Colour : Green with one broad red horizontal band
 Shape (Buoys) : Cylindrical (can), pillar or spar
 Topmark (if any) : Single green cylinder (can)
 Light (when fitted) :
 Colour : Green
 Rhythm : Composite group flashing (2 + 1)

2.4.3.2. Preferred channel to Port :

Colour : Red with one broad green horizontal band
 Shape (Buoys) : Conical, pillar or spar
 Topmark (if any) : Single red cone, point upward
 Light (when fitted) :
 Colour : Red
 Rhythm : Composite group flashing (2 + 1)



2.5. General Rules for Lateral Marks

2.5.1. Shapes

Where lateral marks do not rely upon cylindrical (can) or conical buoy shapes for identification they should, where practicable, carry the appropriate topmark.

2.5.2. Numbering or lettering

If marks at the sides of a channel are numbered or lettered, the numbering or lettering shall follow the "conventional direction of buoyage".