

SECTION 9

MOTORIST SERVICE SIGNS

June 2009

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9. MOTORIST SERVICE SIGNS

9.1 GENERAL

Motorist services signing on motorways and expressways shall be limited to the following:

- (a) Service centres accessible directly from a motorway or motorway exit ramp.
- (b) Hospitals within a reasonable distance of a motorway or expressway exit and which have emergency medical services available on a 24 hour basis.
- (c) Airports.
- (d) Emergency telephones.

9.2 SERVICE CENTRES

A service centre is defined as:

'A purpose built establishment catering mainly for the needs of road users which has direct access from the motorway or expressway and provides, at least, the following services:

- **Motor fuel** - a facility with all the features normally found at a large conventional service station, and
- **Refreshments** - an 'eat-in' cafeteria type facility serving tea, coffee, light meals, etc, and
- **Public toilets** - a facility available to the general public, and
- *adequate parking, and*
- *is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.'*

Other services that are defined as motorist services in MOTSAM, Part I: Traffic Signs, Section 8: Motorist Service Signs may also be shown, with a maximum of eight on one sign.

Typical signing for a motorway service centre accessible directly from a motorway is illustrated in FIGURE 2.13.

Detailed examples of signs for service centres are shown in FIGURES 9.1 and 9.2.

9.3 HOSPITALS

Only hospitals that provide emergency medical services available on a 24 hour basis may be signed, provided the route to the hospital is signed with motorist service style signs on the local roads.

The hospital name may be supplemented with the motorist service symbol. Where more than one hospital is served from the same exit, then 'Hospital' shall be replaced with 'Hospitals' and may be supplemented with the motorist service symbol. The hospital name or word 'Hospital' and the symbol must also then be shown on the local road motorist service signing.

9.4 AIRPORTS

Approved designated airport routes may be signed from the motorway, refer to paragraphs 8.5.5 e (vi) and (vii) in MOTSAM, Part I: Traffic Signs.

Only airports with scheduled international or domestic flights should be shown as destinations on the signs serving relevant motorway exit(s) using motorist service symbol S18 Airfield. It should form part of the legend on advance exit and exit direction signs on or at the start of the route to an

airport. This should only be undertaken when the local Road Controlling Authority has agreed in writing to the signing of the airport route between the relevant motorway exit(s) and the airport. The signing of the airport routes can be considered as similar to Tourist Route signing.

9.5 EMERGENCY TELEPHONES

An 'EMERGENCY ONLY' telephone sign should be placed beside or above each emergency telephone. It should be positioned perpendicular to the direction of traffic to advise drivers of the actual position of each telephone.

Pedestrian indicator signs should be erected parallel to the direction of traffic to advise persons on foot of the direction forward or back along the motorway to the nearest telephone. The signs are to be spaced from approximately 200 m on busy urban motorway to 1 km on lesser rural motorway. A supplementary distance plate should be placed beneath the pedestrian indicator sign.

9.6 SYMBOLS

Motorist services shall be identified by internationally recognised symbols, such as:

- (a) S43 - Motor fuel: petrol, diesel, LPG and CNG.
- (b) S44 - Motor fuel and repairs.
- (c) S45 - Refreshments.
- (d) S46 - Light meals, cafeterias, etc.
- (e) S47 - Information, including:
 - Approved information centres, and
 - Unattended off motorway facilities.
- (f) S48 - 24 hour medical services.
- (g) S49 - Emergency Telephone.
- (h) S50 - Public toilets.
- (i) S55 - Airfield.

The suffix (S) and a number denote motorist service symbols. The symbols to be used are as detailed in the NZTA Traffic Control Devices (TCD) Manual, *Traffic Sign Specification, Appendix, Symbols*.

Intermixing of symbols and word legends shall not be permitted apart from the instances cited in this manual with respect to hospitals and airports.

Motorway motorist service signs are detailed in two sizes, **C** and **D**. The appropriate sign size is as follows:

- (a) **C** sign size should be used for both ground mounted and overhead mounted signs when included on a panel at the bottom of a motorway guide sign.
- (b) **C** sign size should be used on ground mounted signs solely serving a motorway Service Centre.
- (c) **D** sign size should be used on overhead signs solely serving a motorway Service Centre.

Motorist service symbols are positioned on modular grids. The modular grid arrangements are given in NZTA TCD Manual, *Traffic Sign Specification, Appendix, Symbols*.

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When incorporated into ground mounted and overhead mounted motorway signs all symbols shall be Sign Size **C**. This is required to ensure that the symbols do not dominate drivers' attention to the detriment of any route markers. The symbols listed in this section are 5 modules high. With Sign Size **C**, that is a Grid Module Size of 120 mm, the total height of the symbols will be 600 mm. This is the same height as specified for State highway and urban route markers on overhead mounted signs.

Sign Size	Grid Module Size (mm)
C	120
D	160

TABLE 9.1: GRID MODULE SIZES FOR MOTORIST SERVICE SIGNS

Details of the relevant motorist service symbols and their modular grid arrangements are given in NZTA TCD Manual, *Traffic Sign Specification, Appendix, Symbols*.

A white reflectorised border shall not be provided around the perimeter of individual motorist service symbols.

The words 'SERVICE CENTRE' is only to be added to signs when the access ramp solely serves the service centre.

9.7 SIGNING AT INTERCHANGES

No motorist services, apart from airports and hospitals, are to be signed at interchanges or ramp terminal intersections on urban motorways. It is expected that adequate fuel, motor services, food services and lodging will be available near most urban interchanges.

Where motorist services are available directly from a rural motorway exit ramp they shall be included on a panel at the bottom of the relevant advance exit and exit direction signs. An example of such signing is given in FIGURE 9.1, which is a ground mounted motorway exit direction sign.

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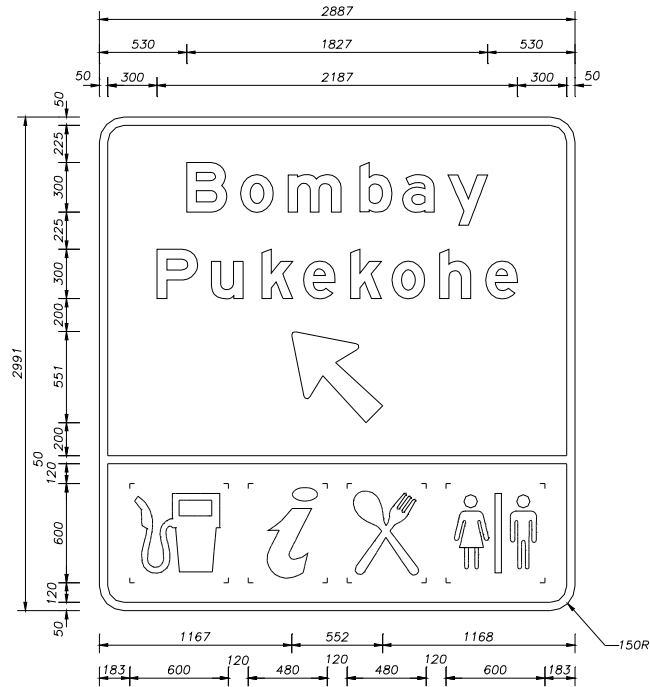
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MI-2

SIGN DETAILS (MOTORIST SERVICES ONLY)

SYMBOLS:	Reflectorised white
BACKGROUND:	Reflectorised blue
BORDER:	Reflectorised white



NOTES:

1. Ground mounted MI-2 sign
2. Details given only relate to motorist services portion of sign.

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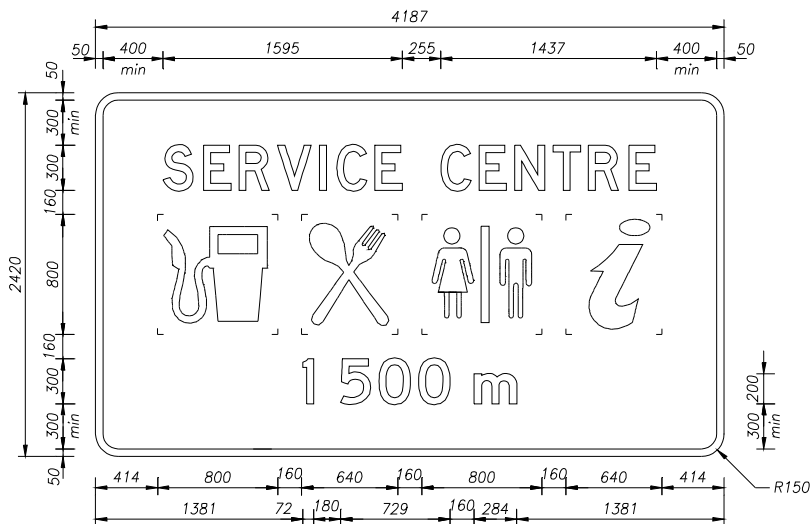
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MI-10

SIGN DETAILS

LEGEND:	Reflectorised white
BACKGROUND:	Reflectorised blue
BORDER:	Reflectorised white
LETTERS:	
Destination:	
Capitals	Series D 300
'km' or 'm'	Modified Series E 200 loop height
NUMERALS:	
'1500'	Series D 300
'2' or '2.5'	Series D 400
SYMBOLS:	Refer to Sections 11.2 and 11.6



NOTE: Overhead mounted sign.

FIGURE 9.2

MI - 10 SERVICE CENTRE SIGN