T-M

TRANSPORTATION-
MARKINGS

GENERAL TABLE OF
CONTENTS

AND INDEX

With General Preface
For T-M Monograph Series

Brian Clearman
Mount Angel Abbey
9th Edition, 2014

Transportation-Markings

General Table of Contents

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TRANSPORTATION-MARKINGS

GENERAL TABLE OF CONTENTS

WITH INDEX

9th Edition

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Mount Angel Abbey

Saint Benedict, Oregon

2014

TRANSPORTION-MARKINGS: A STUDY IN
COMMUNICATION MONOGRAPH SERIES

Alternate Series Title: An Inter-modal Study of Safety Aids
Alternate T-M Titles: Transport [ation] Mark [ing]s/Trans- port
Marks/Transportation Control Devices/Waymarks
*T-M Foundations, 6*th edition, 2013 (Part A, Volume I,
First Studies in T-M) (2nd ed., 1991; 3rd ed. 1999; 4th ed
2005; 5th ed, 2008)
A First Study in T-M: The US, 2nd ed, 1992 (Part B, Vol I)

International Marine Aids to Navigation, 3rd ed, 2010 (Parts C/D, Vol I), (2nd ed, 1988)
[Unified 1st ed, Pts A-D, 1981, University Press of America]
International Traffic Control Devices, 2nd ed, 2004 (Part E, Vol II, Further Studies in T-M) (lst ed, 1984).
International Railway Signals, 1991 (Part F, Vol II)
International Aero Navigation, 1994 (Part G, Vol II)
T-M General Classification, 3rd ed, 2010 (Part H, Vol II) (lst ed, 1994; 2nd ed, 2003)
Transportation-Markings Database:
Marine, 2nd ed, 2007 (Part Ii, Vol III, Additional Studies in T-M) (lst ed, 1997)
TCD, 2nd ed, 2008 (Part Iiii, Vol III) (lst ed, 2000)
Railway, 2nd ed, 2009 (Part Iiii, Vol II) (lst ed, 2000)
Aero, 2nd, 2009 (Part Iiv) (lst ed, 2001)
Composite Categories Classification & Index, 2nd ed, 2012 (Part Iv, Vol III) (2nd ed, 2006)
Transportation-Markings: A Historical Survey, 1750-2000, 2002 (Part J, Vol IV, Final Studies in T-M)
Transportation-Markings: An Integrative Systems Perspective: Communication, Information, Semiotics, 2nd ed, 2014 (Part K, Vol IV) (lst ed, 2011).
T-M General Table of Contents with Index, 9th ed, 2014 (1st ed-8th ed, 2002-2011)

GENERAL PREFACE FOR

TRANSPORTATION-MARKINGS

MONOGRAPH SERIES

2014

GENERAL PREFACE FOR TRANSPORTATION-MARKINGS MONOGRAPH SERIES

The T-M process outlined in these studies describes and classifies safety aids that assist operators of modes of transportation; that process also includes technical and historical perspectives. However, a simple describing and classifying of safety aids can obscure what is at the core of T-M: T-M is essentially a study of symbolic behavior (see Note No. 1). Symbols and what they mean permeate the seemingly practical subject matter of T-M.

T-M weaves in and out of many disciplines and perspectives. Among established disciplines that of semiotics (see Note No. 2A) may come closest to explaining the workings of T-M. Communication, design, culture (in particular, material culture), and holarchy also participate in that ex-

planation. Engineering and technology physically undergird T-M.

T-M studies extends over a quarter-century with early classification studies spanning nearly four decades. The order of the studies has been affected by specific topics and by chronology. A more logical and integrated outline of the studies would be variance with the historical development and listing of monographs. Such an outline can be suggested by a tripartite formulation:

Integrative Studies (General Table of Contents; Foundations; General Classification; T-M History; T-M: An Integrative Systems

Perspective: Communication, Information, Semiotics).
Modal Studies (Marine Aids to Navigation; Traffic Control Devices; Railway Signals; Aero Navaids; US T-M [an inter-modal and adjunct study]).
Database (Marine; Road; Rail; Aero; Composite Classification/Index).

Introductive and integrative material for T-M can be found in a variety of places in the monographs. One such place is in the Prolegomena in Part A, *Foundations* (Addenda, Segments i and ii) which offers both a starting point and a summary of that material.

Note No. 1: T-M Defined

The original T-M definition referred to individual devices: "T-M is any device that aids a mode of transportation by giving information, providing regulations, or expressing warnings."

In an essay for *Proceedings* (Charted Institute of Transport, UK, June 1997) that earlier device-focusses definition was prefaced by this statement: "Transportation- Markings is an integrative and wholistic

study of all forms of safety aids in the realm of Transport."

This General Preface offers a further correction by specifiying the nature of that study: T-M is a study of symbolic behavior. The apparatus for producing symbols, the resulting symbols and their meaning are at the heart of that study.

The term Safety Aids can constitute an alternate term for T-M. Yet it is a very elastic term that can prove elusive as an internet search will quickly confirm. It remains an important term when placed in a transportation context and external to modes of transportation. Other possible alternate terms include Transport [ation] Marking [ing]s and Waymarks. An added source for information on terminology relating to T-M studies is to be found in the Appendix of *T-M Foundations* (Part A, 5th edition, 2008).

Note No. 2A Semiotics & T-M

P. Guiraud, S. Hervey, C. Morris, T. Sebeok are important sources for semiotics in these studies. D. Slees, A. Berger, W. Leed-Hurwitz, W. Nöth are other influences. However, what may be the most significant source was unknown to T-M until relatively recent: *Signs, Symbols, and Ciphers* (ET 1998), by Georges Jean, a professor of semiology and linguistics at the University of Maine (France). Jean surveys signs and symbols of many forms in his book. His descriptive treatment includes both physical apparatus and messages. His form semiotics is reserved to an anthological survey of Sign Theory. His chapter on "Road Signs" (Signes de Pistes in French; see Note No. 2B) includes visual, sound and electronic devices across the range of transportation modes. Quite possibly no other semiotic source comes close to his coverage. And the T-M studies bear more resemblance to Jean than any other source. Jean's book is within the subject heading of Signs and Symbols but it is classified as Semiotics. There are seemingly few mentions of Jean in semiotic literature. Nonetheless, his work can be viewed as semiology

(or semiotics). And it provides a valid approach to that subject and it is an approach that can encompass T-M.

Note No. 2B Road Signs/Signes de Pistes

Road Signs may be a literal translaton of Signes de Pistes but it is inadequate for the full range of subject matter of Chapter 5. G. Jeans may possibly have sought a term that could encompass all forms of safety aids for transportation.
His choice, Signes de Pistes, is admittedly a problem in translation. Internet searches often result in a translation of "Sign of Track" which is employed in diverse ways. That translation may not be fully adequate yet it provides a clue. A further clue to its meaning is found in the "KudoZ network" (within the ProZ.com website devoted to transition assistance). One contributor states that Signes de piste "is derived from a mark on the ground or on a tree when scouts play a big outdoor game in a forest or natural area. In English we would say something like trail blazing signs or trail signs. A 'signe de piste" is an indication meaning 'go' or 'stop' or 'left' or 'right' or 'look for a hidden message' etc."

Speculation suggests that Jean wanted an encompassing terms and signes de pistes with its meaning of tracks, trails and messages of directions was his choice for that term. Per-haps it is less than fully adequate (or more likely, a new and expanded use of the term may not immediately achieve a fully understood significance) yet it has more value than a specific term such as road sign. Signe de piste in the French language may have a role similar to that of Transportation-Markings in the English language. Both terms struggle to encompass a broad range of activity lacking an established term.

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"Under classification we may include all arrangements of objects or names, which we make for saving labour in the dis-covery of an object. Even alphabetical indices are real classi-fications. No such arrangement can be of use unless it in-volves some correlation of circumstances, so that knowing one thing we learn another. If we merely arrange letters in

the pigeon-holes of a secretaire we establish a correlation, for all letters in the first hold will be written by persons, for in-stances. whose names begin with A, and so on. Knowing then the initial letter of the writer's name, we know also the place of the letter, and the labour of search is thus reduced to one twenty-sixth part of what it would be without arrangement."

W. Stanley Jevons, *The principles of Science: A Treatise on Logic and Scientific Method.*
(Chapter XXX, Classification).
lst edition, 1874, 2nd edition, 1877
Dover edition (New York), 1958

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"We Communicate and Navigate with a code of Logos, Symbols, Emblems and Signs."

Susan Yalevich, *Design for Life: Our Daily Lives, the Space we Shape, and the Ways we Communicate, as seen through the collections of Cooper-Hewitt National Design Museum.*
New York: Cooper-Hewitt, National Design Museum, Smithsonian Institution: Rizzoli 1997