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**Rus-Eng 9**

**The use of the symbol system in public buildings**

In all public buildings, there should be provided a system for easy access to reference information on services, service procedure and conditions, and the possibility of access to certain objects in the building. In this case, it is necessary to consider the presence and location of the targeted visit area carefully.

A targeted visit area is a place where a person receives services. It can be organized at the reception in the lobby, at the entrance to the building, in offices, in reading rooms or auditoriums and other places depending on the specific service provided. Reference information is placed mainly in printed form on tables, stands, various signboards and displays. In such a case, it is necessary to provide for a certain number of rules concerning symbols in this system of providing reference information that will be discussed later.

In the navigation and orientation system there is such an important concept as information management. It characterizes the object accessibility and its understanding by a person. The presence of sufficient and complete information management saves time and reduces the physical expense what is especially important when the facility is used by a low mobility group. In particular, information accessibility is a key factor in the public space orienting for certain categories of limited mobility people and people with hearing or visual disabilities. It is worth noting that one type of equipment is provided for people with hearing disabilities and the other ones are provided for people with visual disabilities. It is also mandatory to install signs helping to interpret clearly the availability of such equipment.

* It is necessary to use colors and symbols in the interior elements in accordance with the object type.

Color should be used delicately. There should be no dominance of the symbolic system over the surrounding space. Color use in interior decoration should be in the elements of walls, ceilings, floor inserts, in the decoration of furniture, lamps, etc.

Typical information stands, signs, signboards, maps and schemes are to be designed in unified style solution. It is allowed to use different materials and to change slightly the section configuration but the color scheme and single characters selected for this project should not be changed.

* It is mandatory to develop a navigation stele to obtain the necessary information. Its correct location in the lobby next to the main entrance group is also to be taken into account.
* The placement of the wall-mounted information tactile mnemonic diagram of rooms for people with visual disabilities should be provided.

Mnemonic diagram is a comprehensive tactile layout of the premises (layout of offices in the premises, entrances and exits of the building, symbols), designed for informing, safety and space orientation of people with visual disabilities. All information is provided in the form of plano-convex elements and inscriptions made in Braille.

* The use of pictograms, including tactile ones, for indicating specific rooms in the building (sanitary-hygienic, office, public premises) to inform all users about the purpose of the premises.

It is also mandatory to use pointers with the tactile the Braille dot fonts.

Thus, we can make following conclusions that it is necessary:

* to use a unified system of symbols and color combinations for the projected object, both in the interior and in the exterior;
* to use various types of pointers, signs, information stelas and plates to provide users with the necessary data about the object;
* to take into consideration the characteristic features of a particular designed space.