

## Color selection

### General technical data

#### Color selection according to IEC 60073

IEC 60073 specifies coding principles for indicators and actuators and gives recommendation regarding the use of colors. An excerpt from the standard is given below. For detailed information, see the standard.

Meaning of colors – General principles				
Color		Safety of persons or environment	Condition of process	State of equipment
●	Red	Danger	Emergency	Faulty
●	Yellow	Warning/caution	Abnormal	Abnormal
●	Green	Safe	Normal	Normal
●	Blue	Mandatory significance		
○ ●	White, grey, black	No specific meaning assigned		

#### Non-illuminated actuators

##### Emergency Actuators

EMERGENCY STOP / OFF actuators shall be identified by the color RED.

#### STOP / OFF actuators

WHITE, GREY and BLACK are the preferred colors for STOP / OFF actuators, with the main preference being for BLACK. RED is also permitted. GREEN shall not be used.

#### START / ON actuators

WHITE, GREY and BLACK are the preferred colors for START / ON actuators, which cause the closing of switching devices and the equipment to start, with the main preference being for WHITE. GREEN is also permitted. RED shall not be used.

#### Use of WHITE and BLACK for specific meanings

Where the colors WHITE and BLACK are used to distinguish between START / ON and STOP / OFF actuators, then the color WHITE shall be used for START / ON actuators and the color BLACK shall be used for STOP / OFF actuators.

#### The same actuators serving for START / STOP or ON / OFF

WHITE, GREY and BLACK are the preferred colors for actuators which, when actuated several times, act alternately as a START / ON and STOP / OFF actuator.

The colors YELLOW and GREEN shall not be used. The color RED shall be used only in cases where the same actuator, other than a pushbutton, is used for both EMERGENCY STOP / OFF and normal operation.

WHITE, GREY and BLACK are preferred colors for actuators which cause a movement while they are actuated and stop the movement when they are released (such as inching or jogging actuators). GREEN is also permitted. RED shall not be used.

#### RESET actuators

RESET Actuators (used, for example, with protective relays) shall be BLUE, WHITE, GREY or BLACK, except RESET actuators which also act as STOP / OFF actuators. The color of such STOP / OFF actuators shall be in accordance with STOP / OFF actuators above.