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(71) Applicant
**John Roger Gill,
593 Halifax Road, Liversedge, West Yorkshire
WF15 8HQ**

(72) Inventor
John Roger Gill

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service
**P R Wharton & Co,
Tower House, Merrion Way, Leeds LS2 8PA**

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(54) **Road signs**

(57) A road sign has indicia thereon, the indicia having a border or borders of light translucent material which is illuminated from the rear one or more light source. The translucent material border preferably has a width of between one quarter of an inch and one inch.

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SPECIFICATION

Road Signs

5 This invention relates to road signs and in particular to those road signs, whether temporary or permanent, which have symbols, lettering or other indicia, or a combination thereon.

10 Such road signs will typically have the indicia formed from highly light reflective material. However, even with the use of such material, the road signs can be very difficult to see, particularly at night and/or under bad weather conditions.

15 According to the present invention there is provided a road sign having visually indicative indicia thereon, said indicia having a border or borders of light translucent material, and means for illuminating said border or borders

20 from the rear of the indicia.

Accordingly a road sign of the invention will have the indicia, or at least the outline of the indicia, highly illuminated from the rear. Preferably the outline for the indicia is formed of

25 perspex (RTM) material, for instance, a translucent yellow perspex material. Preferably the outline is a one quarter to one inch width of such translucent material, more preferably about half an inch width.

30 Typical road signs in accordance with the invention may be those indicating "men at work", "road narrows" or "accident". The road sign may be a permanently erected sign or may be a portable sign positioned in the

35 road in an emergency situation, for instance, after a road accident.

The road sign may include one or more sources of light mounted within it so as to illuminate the translucent outline material for

40 the indicia. In one embodiment a plurality of sources of light, such as light bulbs, are located behind the outline material at spaced-apart positions. In another embodiment a single more powerful source of light is positioned

45 so as effectively to illuminate the whole of the translucent outline material. The sources of light may be powered by means of a generator or via independent power packs or by other power sources.

50 It will be appreciated that a road sign in accordance with the present invention can be easily seen, and its meaning determined, even in the most adverse road conditions.

CLAIMS

1. A road sign having visually indicative indicia thereon, said indicia having a border or borders of light translucent material, and means for illuminating said border or borders

60 from the rear of the indicia.

2. A road sign according to Claim 1 in which the outline of the indicia is formed of a translucent material.

3. A road sign according to Claim 2 in which the translucent material is yellow

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perspex (RTM).

4. A road sign according to any of the preceding claims wherein the outline of the indicia has a width of between one quarter of an inch and one inch.

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5. A road sign according to any of the preceding claims wherein the outline of the indicia has a width of half an inch.

6. A road sign according to any of the preceding claims in which at least one light source is located therein so as to illuminate the translucent outline material of the indicia.

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7. A roadsign according to Claim 1 and substantially as herein described.

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