Guidelines for Display Rules and Regulations

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Guidelines for Display Rules and Regulations

- Responsibility of the exhibiting company to comply with SPIE Rules and Regulations
- Non-compliance may require modifications at the exhibitor’s expense
- SPIE Exhibition Management reserves the right to pursue any action it deems necessary in the best interest of the exhibition and in fairness to all exhibitors
- All open or unfinished sides of the exhibit which may appear unsightly must be covered or the organizer will have them covered at the exhibitor’s expense
- Any portion of the exhibit bordering another exhibitor’s space must have the backside of the exhibit finished and not incorporate any identification signs, lettering or graphics
- Peninsula, Split Island and island exhibits must have a finished back wall and be finished on all sides
- Items located in the exhibit space must be in good taste or will be removed at the discretion of the organizer

OPTIONAL (to be ordered separately at Tabletop exhibitor’s expense):

- Cleaning Service
- Electricity
- Internet
- Lead Retrieval
Tabletop

Limit of ONE table per contracted tabletop space, 2ft x 6ft (.6m x 1.8m)

- Display space may not exceed 6ft (1.8m) width
- Display materials are not allowed to be hung on back drape
- Large floor standing back walls are not allowed
- Additional Tables and Chairs are not allowed

**NOTE:** Electricity is not included with the tabletop package

**Included:**
- One 2ft x 6ft (.6m x 1.8m) skirted display table
- Company identification sign
- Two chairs
- Carpeting (matches aisle carpet)
- Wastebasket

Each contracted tabletop space is limited to (not provided):

1 Table-mounted display [not to exceed 6ft (1.8m) wide and 5ft (1.5m) from table surface]

**OR**

Pop-up banner(s) positioned behind the table. **Total** not to exceed 6ft (1.8m) wide and 8ft (2.4 m) high

**Plus UP TO TWO** (total) of the following **must** be positioned behind table:
- Easel
- Table or floor standing monitor
- Bag stand

Tabletop exhibits are placed next to other tabletop exhibits with no dividing side rail.
Space between the tables is neutral area to access tables and must be kept clear.
SPIE Exhibition Management reserves the right to remove any display that does not conform to tabletop display regulations.
Issues Common To All Booth Types

Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) - Please share this information with your booth builder

All exhibiting companies are required to be in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and are encouraged to be sensitive, and as reasonably accommodating as possible, to attendees with disabilities. Information regarding ADA compliance is available from the U.S. Department of Justice ADA Information Line (800) 514-0301, and from the ADA website at www.ada.gov. Some examples of how to design an exhibit for ADA compliance:

• Make exhibits wheelchair accessible by ramping raised exhibit flooring without extending a ramp into the aisle.  
  **Note:** a standard wheelchair ramp should have a grade no steeper than 1:12. This means that for every inch of rise (change in height), there should be 12 inches of run (change in length)
• Ramp the entry or use hydraulic lifts to trailer exhibits
• Avoid double-padded plush carpet to ease mobility device navigation
• Provide the same attendee experience on both levels of a two-story exhibit
• Offer a signer or other auxiliary hearing-impaired apparatus for sound presentations or have a printed copy of the presentation available
• Run an audio presentation for people with sight problems
• Arrange touch screen displays at a height to accommodate a person sitting in a wheelchair

To avoid heavy fines by the U. S. Department of Justice, exhibitors must adhere to the ADA rules. Exhibits are not exempt from ADA compliance.

Structural Integrity

All exhibit displays should be designed and erected in a manner that will withstand normal contact or vibration caused by neighboring exhibitors, hall laborers, or installation/dismantling equipment, such as fork lifts. Displays should also be able to withstand moderate wind effects that may occur in the exhibition hall when freight doors are open. Refer to local building codes that regulate temporary structures.

It is recommended that all 20ft by 20ft (6.10m by 6.10m) and over exhibits require a drawing, plans or renderings, preferably digital, to be submitted to the show organizer, and to the show's general service contractor.

Exhibitors should ensure that any display fixtures such as tables, racks, or shelves are designed and installed properly to support the product or marketing materials to be displayed.

Flammable and Toxic Materials

All materials used in display construction or decorating should be made of fire retardant materials and be certified as flame retardant. Samples should also be available for testing. Materials that cannot be treated to meet the requirements should not be used. A flame-proofing certificate should be available for inspection. Exhibitors should be aware of local regulations regarding fire/safety and environment which must be adhered to.

Exhibitors should dispose of any waste products they generate during the exhibition in accordance with guidelines established by the Environmental Protection Agency and the facility.
**Issues Common To All Booth Types**

**Electrical**

Every exhibit facility has different electrical requirements. However, minimum guidelines are suggested:

- All 110-volt wiring should be grounded three-wire.
- Wiring that touches the floor should be “SO” cord (minimum 14-gauge/three-wire) flat cord, which is insulated to qualify for “extra hard usage.”
- Cord wiring above floor level can be “SJ” which is rated for “hard usage.”
- Using zip cords, two-wire cords, latex cords, plastic cords, lamp cords, open clip sockets, and two-wire clamp-on fixtures is not recommended and is often prohibited. Cube taps should be prohibited.
- Power strips (multi-plug connectors) should be UL approved, with built-in over-load surge protectors.
- Local code commonly requires access to electrical cords and connections along the back wall of exhibit booths; typically, the back 9 inches of the space should remain accessible for this purpose. (This would apply to all booth types with a back wall.)

**Lighting**

Exhibitors should adhere to the following suggested minimum guidelines when determining booth lighting:

- No lighting, fixtures, lighting trusses, or overhead lighting are allowed outside the boundaries of the exhibit space. Exhibitors intending to use hanging light systems should submit drawings to exhibition management for approval.
- Lighting, including gobos, should be directed to the inner confines of the booth space. Lighting should not project onto other exhibits or exhibition aisles. A finished hard panel may be required to defuse back lit displays.
- Lighting that is potentially harmful, such as lasers, ultraviolet lights or flashing or strobe lights that can trigger photosensitive epilepsy should comply with facility rules and be approved in writing by exhibition management.
- Lighting that spins, rotates, pulsates, and other specialized lighting effects should be in good taste and not interfere with neighboring exhibitors or otherwise detract from the general atmosphere of the event.
- LED lights can be very bright yet generally generate less heat.
- Currently, some convention facilities are not allowing certain types of quartz halogen lighting fixtures in exhibits due to potential fire hazards. Check with exhibition management.
- Reduced lighting for theater areas should be approved by the exhibition organizer, the utility provider, and the exhibit facility.
**Demonstrations**

As a matter of safety and courtesy to others, exhibitors should conduct sales presentations and product demonstrations in a manner which assures all exhibitor personnel and attendees are within the contracted exhibit space and not encroaching on the aisle or neighboring exhibits. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to arrange displays, product presentation, audio visual presentations, and demonstration areas to ensure compliance. Exhibitors should be aware of local regulations regarding fire/safety and environment which must be adhered to.

Special caution should be taken when demonstrating machinery or equipment that has moving parts, cooking equipment with an open flame, or any product that is otherwise potentially dangerous. Exhibitors should establish a minimum setback of 3ft (.91m) and/or install hazard barriers as necessary to prevent accidental injury to spectators. Additionally, demonstrations should only be conducted by qualified personnel.

**Sound/Music**

In general, the use of sound equipment in booths is permitted as long as the noise level does not disrupt the activities of neighboring exhibitors. Speakers and other sound devices should be positioned to direct sound inward (to be contained within the booth) rather than outward (toward aisles and other exhibitor booths). Generally, sound and noise should not exceed 85 decibels when measured from the aisle immediately in front of a booth. If an exhibitor or attendee is standing within ten feet of an exhibitor’s booth and cannot carry on a normal voice-level conversation, the noise source is too loud. (Refer to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Act [OSHA] at www.osha.gov for more information.)

Exhibitors should be aware that music played in their booths, whether live or recorded, may be subject to laws governing the use of copyrighted compositions. Authorized licensing organizations, including but not limited to ASCAP, BMI and SESAC, collect copyright fees on behalf of composers and publishers of music. It is the exhibitors’ responsibility to be informed of copyright laws and submit fees to the appropriate organizations.

**Storage**

Fire regulations in most exhibit facilities prohibit storing product, literature, empty packing containers, or packing materials behind back drapes or under draped tables. In most cases, however, exhibitors may store a limited supply of literature or product appropriately within the booth area, so long as these items do not impede access to utility services, create a safety problem, or look unsightly.

**Vehicles**

Rules vary depending on the facility, but generally it is required that vehicles on display have no more than one fourth tank of gas. The filler cap should be sealed and the batteries disconnected. External chargers are usually recommended for demonstration purposes. Keys should always be surrendered to show management while participating in an exhibition or event.