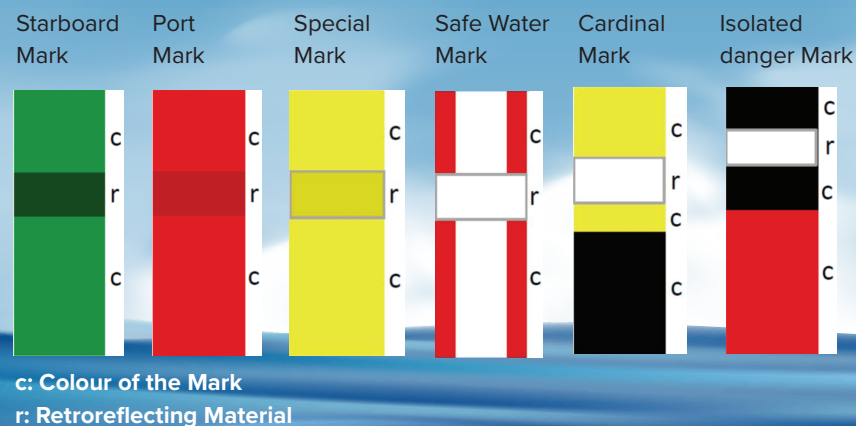


# AtoN Maintenance

## Paints, Coatings and Retroreflecting materials

*Paint provides protection from corrosion and provide the signal colour to be seen by the mariner*



Indirect  
(Diffuse)  
Illumination

Direct  
Illumination

Object  
Daymark

Haze / Fog

Observer

AtoNs can be equipped with retroreflective material, so the mariner can detect the position and colour at night by use of a searchlight

In principle, green, red and yellow buoys should carry only one green, red and yellow band respectively

White bands for safe water, cardinal and isolated danger marks

- The IALA MBS uses 5 colours: Red, Yellow, White, Blue and Black
- Coloured surfaces are subject to salt deposits, marine growth, bird fouling, mechanical abrasion UV degradation, etc.
- A surface colour should always be checked, especially at a distance, for its appearance among the surrounding colours
- Deterioration of surface colours in use is a common occurrence, and care must be taken that signal colours always remain in compliance with their specifications
- Effective colour retention will depend on regular maintenance cleaning which will be simplified by utilising paint with a hard and high gloss surface
- A glossy surface produces a saturated colour, thus its recommended to use glossy colours for AtoNs