

November 16, 2011



Subject: Access-controlled devices

Access-controlled devices used on the entrance doors to buildings and tenant spaces must comply with Sec. 1008.1.3.4 of the 2006 International Building Code. Other doors throughout the building must meet the following requirements.

Buildings protected throughout by an automatic sprinkler system or automatic smoke detection system with <u>magnetic locks</u> are required to meet the following:

All doors on a given floor shall be fail-safe, unlocking upon actuation of the sprinkler system, smoke detection system or any fire alarm mechanism, or loss of electrical power. A push type button shall be provided within 3 feet of the door that will unlock the door for 30 seconds when the button is pushed. A sign is required above this device stating "PUSH TO OPEN" in 1/4 inch letters. A motion detector can be used in lieu of a push type button that will allow normal exiting. In instances where a push button cannot be used on the egress side of the door, a pull station of contrasting color to the fire alarm pull stations in the building may be substituted. A **yellow** pull station is preferred. A sign with 1/4 inch letters shall be placed above the pull station reading "Emergency Door Release - This device is not a fire alarm".

Buildings without approved automatic smoke or sprinkler systems must use "**touch sensitive**" bars or an identical product. This product is accepted on all doors and occupancies when the magnetic lock releases whenever the horizontal bar is touched. There is no time delay and the action of the lock and the location of the bar is virtually the same as panic hardware. The lock must be fail-safe unlocking upon activation or loss of power.

For doors with a delay, the system must meet Sec.1008.1.8.6 Delayed Egress Locks of the 2006 International Building Code.