

Imperial College London

FIRE SERVICES
ROOM 174, SHERFIELD BUILDING

Code of Practice

Revision No: 2
Date: 6th May 2008

Building Fire Safety Installations - Minimum Requirements

Fire Doors & frames:

The door and frame should be treated as an assembly and the following standard must be adhered to:

Frame:

The door should be close fitting in the frame all round. An intumescent mastic seal must be provided between frame and wall/partition

Hinges:

Hinges shall have a minimum melting point of 800°C. There shall be sufficient hinges to support the weight of the door but in all cases at least one and a half pairs per door, the top two being in the top third of the door.

Self Closers:

Doors will be fitted with self closing devices unless fitted to cupboards or rooms where the doors are required to be locked shut.

Door Holders:

Where door holders are fitted these shall be either connected to the fire alarm or operated by the sound of the alarm. In either case smoke detectors must be provided either side of the door opening.

Signage:

A sign must be provided either side of the door stating one of the following; "Fire door keep shut", "Fire Door Keep Locked" or "Automatic fire door keep clear" as fits the case.

Vision Panels:

Should a vision panel be required, no side of the glazing shall be less than 150mm long. Beading may be pinned or screwed but in all cases must also be glued.

Intumescent Strips:

Intumescent strips and smoke seals must be provided.

Fire alarms:

Where new or additional fire alarms are fitted the following are required:

A Certificate of compliance with the relevant standard.

Plans marked with the position and addresses of devices.

A sound level test certificate. This should take the form of plans marked with the sound level in each room/area.

Emergency Lighting:

Where new or additional emergency lighting is fitted the following are required:
A certificate of compliance with the relevant standard
Plans marked with the lighting level in each room/area.

Fire Fighting Equipment:

It is the current policy that all existing hose reels are maintained in working condition.
Fire extinguishers should be provided by an Estates approved contractor in the positions recommended by the Fire Department.

Signage:

Fire signage must be of the pictorial type. Where works are carried on in existing buildings, signs should be of the same type as those already fitted. In the case of new buildings, the signage must comply with European Directive 92/58 EEC.

Partitioning:

Where fire resistant partitioning is required, the edges must be sealed with intumescent mastic.

Fire Resistance:

Fire resistance will be determined by the fire strategy for the building and demands of the building regulation

Fillers and foams:

Where fire resistance is required and fillers and mastic are used, the filler must be of the fire resistant type and the mastic must be of the intumescent type.

Holes for pipes/cables:

Where holes are made for the passage of pipes or cables etc. the remaining space must be back filled with materials to the same fire resisting standard as the construction in which they are made.

Door locking devices:

Where electronically controlled locking devices are installed on escape routes the following shall apply;
They shall be connected to the fire alarm system.
They shall be so fitted to fail safe in the unlocked position.
There shall be a green break glass override switch or manual means provided to allow for operation in the event of failure of the alarm system.

Bearing in mind disabled usage, it is preferable that door furniture is of the lever type rather than thumb turn.

Chief Fire Officer