



Legislation and standards for the design, installation and operation of Emergency Lighting

30th June 2010

European legislation for Emergency Lighting and Fire Alarms

The emergency lighting market is driven by Legal pressure from
enforcing authorities and insurers

European Fire Safety Legislation

The Construction Products Directive (89/106)

The Workplace Directive (89/654)

The Signs Directive (90/664)

UK Compliance with Legislation



Act of Parliament - Enforcement by courts

Government Departments.

e.g. Department for Communities, provide guidance



Fire Authority & Building Control- Implement Laws



British Standards Institute –

Produces standards (BS 5266) of best engineering practice by consultation with all parties. If acceptable they are called up in guidance documents as showing legal compliance In addition B.S.I. tests products and provides quality assurance inspections of production

European Legislation

Construction Products Directive 89/106/EEC

Section 4.3.8.1 - Emergency Lighting Installation (panic lighting, escape lighting)

The purpose of the installation is to ensure that lighting is provided promptly, automatically and for a suitable time in a specific area when normal power supply to the lighting fails. The purpose of the installation is to ensure that:-

- **the means of escape can be safely and effectively used;**
- **activities in particularly hazardous workplaces can be safely terminated;**
- **emergency actions can be effectively carried out at appropriate locations in the workplace**

National Legislation England and Wales

The Building Regulations 2000 (2006 edition)

Implemented by the BUILDING CONTROL OFFICERS and applies to new and refurbished buildings except for private dwellings.

This specifies that all escape routes and areas listed in Table 9 should have emergency lighting complying to BS 5266 / EN 1838

European Legislation

The Work Place Directive (89/654/EEC)

4.5 Specific emergency routes and exits must be indicated by signs in accordance with the national regulations.

4.7 Emergency routes and exits requiring illumination must be provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity in case the lighting fails

(Note This means that if normal lighting is installed the premises are designed to be used at night, so emergency lighting is also needed)

National legislation:

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order

In England and Wales the workplace directive is now implemented by the Fire Safety Order. which amends or replaces 80 pieces of legislation, the most significant being the repeal of the Fire Precautions Act 1971 and the revocation of Fire Precautions (workplace) Regulation 1997.

Guides are on line at www.firesafetyguides.communitiies.gov.uk

The Order applies to the majority of premises and workplaces.

The Fire Safety Order (England and Wales)

The user has to perform **a risk assessment** for all premises in which people are employed

If 5 or more people are employed there must be a written record of the assessments findings and the action taken.

If a fire certificate has been issued recently a risk assessment is still required but few additional fire precautions are likely to be needed

If the fire certificate was given according to an out-of-date standard this must be addressed in the risk assessment

Coverage of premises

No.	Fire precautions Act	New Fire Safety Order
0 - 4	No requirements	Must comply no record needed
5 +	No requirements	Must comply, with a written record from competent engineer. Self certification with audit by Fire authority.
6+	No requirements except sleeping risks above 6	
10+	No requirements except 10 above ground floor	
21 +	Fire certificate needed from Fire Authority	
	Not retrospective	Annual update

The Fire Safety Order (England and Wales)

The Responsible Person must comply with the order. It outlines measures to protect the people they are directly or indirectly responsible for.

***RESPONSIBLE PERSON* is normally the employer or any other person who may have control of part of the premises.**

It allows the Enforcing Authority to make sure that it is enacted and sets penalties if it is not.

The responsible person must:

Carry out a Fire Risk Assessment and put in place Policy, Procedures, staff Training etc.

Provide and maintain e.g. clear means of escape, emergency lighting etc.

Implications of Fire Safety Order 2005

Responsible persons need to ensure occupants are safe in their premises

The Order does not contain specific Fire Safety requirements but it refers to specific guides.

Where the enforcing authority are not satisfied that the precautions are adequate they will give their opinion of where they do not comply with the law!

In a dispute it would be the for the responsible person to demonstrate that all practicable steps have been taken

Major points Emergency Lighting

Fire safety records must show:

- Testing of the emergency lighting

- The competence, qualifications and status of the persons responsible for carrying out inspections and tests

Notes:

3rd party quality assurance of products (eg ICEL & Kitemark) and installers (eg BAFA) is a means of demonstrating that the system complies with the law

The responsible person should check that the sub contractors of any specialist contractors are also subject to the same levels of competence and quality.

European Legislation

The Signs Directive (in UK S.I. 341)

Depending on requirements, signs and signalling devices must be regularly cleaned, maintained, checked, repaired, and replaced.

Signs requiring some form of power must be provided with a guaranteed supply.

National Guide

The Home Office produced document L 64 - a guide to safety signs.(2009 edition)

Additional information is given in fire safety guides which define that the signs must be clearly visible and indicate the escape route without ambiguity.

Other relevant Legislation

Risk assessment

Under the Management of Health and Safety At Work Regulations 1999, every employer is required to carry out a risk assessment to identify the risks to people who enter the employer's premises and to take measures on the basis of the risk assessment to safeguard building occupants/users.

UK Legislation- Other Requirements

Some workplaces require a licence from the Local Authority. The Fire Authority may require higher levels for premises Including:

Sale of alcohol	Gambling	Music and dancing
Theatres/Cinemas	Sports stadia	Public entertainment

Some premises must be registered with the Local Authority They also need to be accepted by the Fire Authority Including:

Nursing Homes	Children's homes
Residential care homes	Independent schools

**COMPLIANCE WITH BS 5266 / EN 1838 IS DEEMED
TO COMPLY WITH THE REGULATIONS**

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Thank You