



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

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 Relevant Parliament – ultimate enforcement by courts



Government Departments.

- e.g. Department for Communities, provide guidance



Fire Authority & Building Control – Implement the 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

Scottish Building Regulations.

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

Every *building* must be designed and *constructed* in such a way that in the event of an outbreak of fire within the *building*, illumination is provided to assist in escape.

Escape routes should be illuminated to aid the safe evacuation of a *building* in an emergency.

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

Fire (Scotland) Act 2005

The *Fire (Scotland) Act 2005, as amended, introduced changes to fire safety law in Scotland and repealed previous fire safety legislation. Sections 53, 54 and 56 of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005 place a duty of compliance on employers, employees, managers, owners and others in relation to fire safety.*

Application specific guides have been produced which may also be helpful to all other persons with a role in ensuring fire safety of premises

England and Wales have equivalent legislation called the Fire Safety Order 2005

N. Ireland has also published an overall guides.

Fire(Scotland) Act 2005

Guides currently available are

- Care Homes
- Offices, Shops & Similar Premises
- Factories & Storage Premises
- Educational & Day Care for Children Premises
- Sleeping Accommodation Premises Guides
- Transport Premises Guides
- Places of Entertainment and Assembly
- Healthcare Premises Guide

The web site address is – www.infoscotland.com

Fire(Scotland) Act 2005

FIRE AUTHORITY guidance requires the user (responsible person) to perform **a risk assessment** for all premises in which people are employed

Compliance with this legislation is achieved by identifying the risks and then reducing them to tolerable levels

To meet this risk based procedure changes in BS 5266-1 and 5266-10 enable a specific response to be provided to match individual applications

(England, Wales & N. Ireland have equivalent legislation and guides)

Risk Assessment

The user to 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



Staff	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 Legislation

The Responsible Person must comply with the order. It outlines measures to protect all 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 ensure contractors appointed or employed to design, install, maintain or test fire safety or test equipment or systems. are competent

Major points Emergency Lighting

Emergency Escape Lighting - **In premises with internal escape routes or which are used during darkness including early darkness on winter days then emergency lighting is likely to be required.**

In larger more complex premises it is likely that automatic emergency escape lighting will be needed for all escape routes.

Questions to be answered from the guide Checklist –

Are your premises used during periods of darkness?

Will there always be sufficient lighting to safely use escape routes?

Do you have back-up supplies for your emergency lighting?

Major points Emergency Lighting

The installation of an emergency escape lighting system should be carried out by a competent person in accordance with BS 5266-1 and-8

All emergency escape lighting systems should be regularly tested and maintained. Most systems will need to be manually tested **however modern systems have self testing facilities that reduce checks to a minimum.**

To complement emergency escape lighting, way guidance schemes can help evacuation in smoke and for partially sighted people.

Major points Emergency Lighting

Fire safety records must show -

Testing of the emergency lighting -

The records should indicate the competence, qualifications and status of the persons responsible for carrying out inspections and tests

3rd party quality assurance of products(eg ICEL & Kitemark) and installers(eg BAFE) 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)

6. Depending on requirements, signs and signalling devices must be regularly cleaned, maintained, checked, repaired, and replaced.
8. 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.

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; **the employer is required to take measures on the basis of the risk assessment to safeguard building occupants**. These measures need to include the provision of safe means of escape, including, where necessary, emergency lighting, taking into account the needs of people with disabilities, in particular people with visual impairment

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 and 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