



## Emergency Lighting

Under the new Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, which became law on the 1st October 2006, it is now mandatory to undertake a written Fire Risk Assessment, and to maintain this as a 'living' document. i.e. it should be re-assessed at least annually, and updated in the event of any significant changes made to the premises which should be incorporated into the document.

The new Fire Safety Order encompasses and takes the place of all previous fire safety legislation and all aspects of Fire Safety are now together under this order and now non compliance is dealt with under the authority of criminal law.

This piece of legislation requires the 'Responsible Person', to consider all aspects of Fire Safety within their premises and included in this requirement is the provision of Emergency Lighting.

## What is Emergency Lighting?

Emergency lights are self contained units that are wired into the mains, but have the benefit of battery backup which enables them to remain illuminated should the mains power fail. The batteries can either be carried within the body of the individual light or accessed by lights via an independent wired circuit. The batteries are kept charged via the mains.

## What Standards should be observed in Emergency Lighting?

These systems should conform to BS 5266, and BS 5588.

## Why do I need such lights?

Because in the event of a power failure you must ensure your building is evacuated safely and quickly with the escape routes and emergency exits requiring to be illuminated to achieve this.

## Routine testing and maintenance of emergency lighting

It is very important that emergency lighting is properly tested and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Below is the suggested routine testing procedure including the daily and monthly checks that should be carried out by the responsible person within the premises:

**Daily:** Visually check that all maintained lamps are operating and that all system healthy indicators on central battery systems are illuminated. Check that any faults on the system are rectified and are then noted in the log book.

**Monthly:** Check all luminaires and other emergency lighting equipment is in good condition and all lamps and fitting diffusers are clean, undamaged and the lamps are not blackened. Briefly test all emergency lighting by simulating a failure of the normal mains supply. The test should not exceed a quarter of the equipment rated duration, check all fittings work correctly.

Upon restoring the mains supply check all mains healthy lamps are operating.

**Six monthly:** Carry out testing as in the monthly test routine but test the fittings for one third of their rated duration conducted by a competent service engineer.

**Annually:** A full system test should be conducted by a competent service engineer including a full rated duration test of the system.

## What we offer

- Design and installation of new systems.
- Annually and 6 monthly maintenance.
- Survey and maintenance of existing systems.
- Call out for system faults.

**Please contact us to arrange a survey or for more information.**