

TECHNICAL PAPER TD130704 **PANIC DEVICES and EMERGENCY EXIT HARDWARE**

On 19th April 99 we issued a Technical Data Sheet informing all customers of the new standards for Panic Devices and Emergency Exit Hardware, namely BSEN1125 and BSEN179.

These new standards were necessary before CE marking could be introduced for panic devices.

"CE" marking has now taken place, but although the old standard, B.S.5725 :Pt.1:1981, has been withdrawn and CE marking of panic devices is now the norm, there are still panic devices being sold which do not comply with the new standard and therefore cannot be "CE" marked.

A prime case is the 'standard' Surelock McGill multi-point panic device for single and double doorsets. These devices are primarily intended to fulfill a security requirement but also provide means of escape in an emergency.

They are still sold as panic devices, but they do not comply with BSEN1125 and do not carry a "CE" mark.

SINGLE DOORSETS

Surelock McGill produce a 3-point panic device for a single doorset which will comply with BSEN1125. There is negligible visual difference between this unit and the existing, non-compliant panic device, (with the exception of the bottom bolt) but it must be requested when ordering, and is subject to additional cost.

Where there is a requirement for "CE" marked Surelock McGill panic devices on single doorsets, this must be stated on your order to Omega.

DOUBLE DOORSETS.

Where panic devices are required on rebated double doorsets, the new Standard calls for a vertical rod panic device on the "passive" leaf, with a separate single-point panic latch on the "active" leaf. Each device shall be operated by its own horizontal push-bar, with no central cross-over connection.

Surelock McGill's existing double door device includes cross-over connections between the two horizontal push-bars, to allow them to use vertical rod devices on both door leaves.

As the cross-over joint is no longer accepted and only the "passive" leaf can include a vertical rod device, the "active" leaf must now include horizontal bolting only.

Surelock McGill are currently testing two options for a multi-point device for use on double doors, which should offer compliance with BSEN1125. They are hopeful that these units will be "CE" marked within the next couple of months.

Both options are totally different from the existing double-door device and the costs of these two devices will vary considerably.

SINGLE-POINT OPTION

"Passive" leaf - Standard two-way Surelock McGill device.

"Active" leaf - Surelock McGill EX702 single-point
(horizontal bolting) device.

MULTI-POINT OPTION

"Passive" leaf - Standard two-way Surelock McGill device.

"Active" leaf - Surelock McGill EX213 three-point
(horizontal bolting) device.

As both of these new options only include vertical bolting on the "passive" leaf, they will not offer the same level of security previously available with the old device, which included positive connection to floor and frame head on both leaves.

Where clients require "CE" marked Surelock McGill devices on double doorsets, they must be made aware of this trade-off in reduced security, once these new devices are made available.

Where there is a requirement for "CE" marked Surelock McGill panic devices on double doorsets, this must be stated on your order to Omega, along with details of the option required, i.e. single -point "active" or three-point "active".

Omega Technical Department