

EMERGENCY LIGHTS

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OVERVIEW

Emergency lights should be arranged to provide a continuous path of light from any point in a structure to the exit. The lights must operate within 10 seconds of a power failure and for a period of not less than 1 1/2 hours. The owner of the building should test them monthly.

GENERAL

The emergency lighting system shall be arranged to provide the required illumination automatically in the event of any of the following:

- (1) Interruption of normal lighting such as any failure of a public utility or other outside electrical power supply
- (2) Opening of a circuit breaker or fuse
- (3) Manual act(s), including accidental opening of a switch controlling normal lighting facilities 7.9.3

PERFORMANCE

Where maintenance of illumination depends on changing from one energy source to another, a delay of not more than **10 seconds** shall be permitted. Emergency illumination shall be provided for not less than **1 1/2 hours** in the event of failure of normal lighting.

Emergency lighting facilities shall be arranged to provide initial illumination that is not less than an average of 1 ft-candle (10 lux) and, at any point, not less than 0.1 ft-candle (1 lux), measured along the path of egress at floor level. Illumination levels shall be permitted to decline to not less than an average of 0.6 ft-candle (6 lux) and, at any point, not less than 0.06 ft-candle (0.6 lux) at the end of the 1 1/2 hours.

Periodic Testing of Emergency Lighting Equipment.

A functional test shall be conducted on every required emergency lighting system at **30-day intervals** for not less than 30 seconds

An annual test shall be conducted on every required battery-powered emergency lighting system for not less than 1 1/2 hours.

Equipment shall be fully operational for the duration of the test.

Written records of visual inspections and tests shall be kept by the owner for inspection by the authority having jurisdiction.

