

### **BS EN 179:2008 Emergency exit devices operated by a lever handle or push pad.**

Products tested to British and European standards provide greater durability, longer warranty periods, peace of mind and evidence of professional specification.

Products that conform to BS EN 179 offer a safe and effective route through a doorway with one single operation to release the device and can be used on premises that require prior knowledge of its operation, and where panic situations are not foreseen which therefore allows the use of the push pad or lever handle. For example offices that are not open to the public.

Under the standard each product is tested and classified accordingly to show its compliance. The identification of a 10-digit code is visible on the individual product. Each digit represents a category and how it measured against the standard to which it was tested.

#### Digit 1: Category of use

Only one category is identified.

3 = high frequency of use by public and others with little or no incentive to exercise care e.g. schools, areas of entertainment etc.

#### Digit 2: Durability

6 = tested to 100,000 cycles.

7 = tested to 200,000 cycles.

#### Digit 3: Door mass

5 = for doors up to 100kg.

6 = for doors up to 200kg.

7 = for doors over 200kg.

#### Digit 4\*: Suitable for use on fire/smoke door assemblies

0 = Not suitable.

A = Suitable for use on smoke door assemblies.

B = Suitable for use on fire and smoke door assemblies.

Notes: \*Annex B contains additional requirements for the devices to the grades above

#### Digit 5: Safety

1 = All devices have a critical safety function – therefore only the top grade is identified for these standards..

#### Digit 6: Corrosion resistance to EN 1670

3 = high resistance.

4 = very high resistance.

#### Digit 7: Security

2 = 1000 N

3 = 2000 N

4 = 3000 N

5 = 5000 N

Note: Additional tests may be carried out to prove a high level of security.

#### Digit 8: Projection of device

1 = standard projection (projection of 150mm from the face of the door).

2 = low projection (projection of 100mm from the face of the door).

Note: Grade 1 does not apply to type A operation

#### Digit 9: Type of device

A = panic device using a lever handle.

B = emergency device using a push pad.

Digit 10: Field of application

A = Outward opening single door, double door: active or inactive leaf

B = Outward opening single door only

C = Outward opening double door: inactive leaf only

D = Inward opening single door only

**Example:**

**3-7-7-B-1-4-4-2-B-A**

The classification denotes an exit device with the following characteristics:

3 – Suitable for use in high frequency applications

7 – Tested to 200,000 cycles

7 – For door mass over 200kg

B – Suitable for use on fire/smoke door assemblies\*

1 – Safe for use on escape route doors

4 – Very high corrosion resistance

4 – With grade 4 security level 3000N

2 – With projection up to 100mm

B – a 'push pad' type B emergency exit device

A – For use on outward opening single & double doors, active or inactive leaf

Other devices available from Edward Steel & Craig Ltd, whilst not covered by BS EN 179, have a use in controlled situations. The movement of people, in emergency situations, between two segregated areas and in both directions, can be covered by emergency bolts or break dome locks. For example, office to office.

The use of these devices should be with the approval of the local fire authority. They should be used only by people with prior knowledge of their function. On main fire routes, final escape doors and corridor escape routes BS EN 179 and BS EN 1125 should be strictly adhered to.

**Marking:**

a) Manufacturers name or trademark or other means of positive identification.

b) Classification as detailed.

c) The number of the European standard.

d) The month and year of final assembly by the manufacturer.

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