



BULLETIN RB06-020

(Updated 2015 Dec 10)

RELEASE OF ELECTRO-MAGNETIC LOCKING DEVICES BY LIGHT SENSORS

Reference: Clause 3.4.6.15.(4)(e)

Clause 3.4.6.15.(4)(e) “a force of not more than 90 N applied to the door opening hardware initiates an irreversible process that will release the locking device within 15s and not relock until the door has been opened,”

Question:

Could light beam sensors be used to de-activate (electro-magnetic) locking devices instead of applying pressure as specified in **Clause 3.4.6.15.(4)(e)**?

Commentary / Relevant Facts:

The purpose of having requirements for electro-magnetic door locking devices is to ensure that a person wishing to leave a building where such locks are located can do so without special knowledge or keys by simply waiting for a period not exceeding 15 seconds. There should be no objection to any other means of unlocking automatic doors if the conditions set out in **Sentence 3.4.6.15.(4) are satisfied.**

Conclusion:

Light beams sensors as means of unlocking electro-magnetic locking devices are acceptable if they fully comply with the intent of **Sentence 3.4.6.15.(4).**

In addition, such doors should be normally operable without special knowledge or devices if the light beam sensors become de-activated for any reason.

Chief Building Inspector

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