
BULLETIN 2000-009-BU

Revised July 6, 2016

ELEVATOR LOBBY ACCESS TO EXITS

In an effort to provide security for single tenant floor areas located in office buildings, a variety of requests have been received to permit locking of a tenant space from elevator lobbies on an equivalent basis. Of concern are the issues of being able to safely exit from a locked elevator lobby and assault security especially after normal working hours.

In an effort to provide consistent levels of life safety and assault security, our review of various issues has concluded that unrestricted access to an exit door must be provided at all times from elevator lobbies.

The following compliance option is acceptable as an alternative to open access to exit stairs from the lobby on floors above ground level.

1. Provide open access to one exit from the lobby, i.e. no intervening doors between the elevator lobby and the exit door, and
2. Comply with Sentence 3.4.6.16.(4) of Division B for the locking mechanism in any intervening door providing access to a second exit from the lobby where a second means of egress is required under Article 3.3.1.5.

(Original signed by)

K. Lau, P.Eng., CP
BUILDING POLICY ENGINEER
BUILDING POLICY BRANCH

(Original signed by)

P. Ryan, M.Sc., P.Eng.
CHIEF BUILDING OFFICIAL
DIRECTOR, BUILDING CODE & POLICY