

**NC Department of Insurance
Office of the State Fire Marshal - Engineering Division
1202 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1202
919-661-5880**

Access-Control Egress Doors

Code: 2002 Fire Prevention Code

Date: July 15, 2004

Section: 1003.3.1.3.4

Question:

Does Section 1003.3.1.3.4 of the Fire Prevention Code for Access-Controlled Egress Doors apply to egress door assemblies equipped with a magnetic lock (that holds the door closed) that is deactivated by a micro-switch embedded within the door hardware?

Answer:

Yes. Section 1003.3.1.3.4 addresses methods that would allow occupants from Group A, B, E, M, R-1 and R-2 occupancies to continue to leave the building if the magnetic lock assembly malfunctions.

It should be noted that this interpretation does not effect ingress (entering the building), provided that egress is not dependant on an electro-mechanical function such as a magnetic lock releasing.