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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD
FOR
EXIT DEVICES



SPONSOR
BUILDERS HARDWARE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE

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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

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FOREWORD (This Foreword is not a part of ANSI/BHMA A156.3)

The general classification of builders hardware includes a wide variety of items which are divided into several categories. To recognize this diversity, a sectional classification system has been established. Exit devices is one such section and this Standard is the result of the collective efforts of members of the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association, Inc. who manufacture these products. The total Product Standards effort is therefore, a collection of sections, each covering a specific category of items.

The BHMA recognized that errors will be found, items will become obsolete, and new products, methods and materials will be developed. With this in mind, the Association plans to update, correct and revise these Standards on a regular basis.

In most cases, products have been described in grade levels related to performance with Grade 1 being the highest rating. Some products described are suitable for use according to conditions and are not graded. Grade classifications indicate levels only within their own product category. Choice of grade and specific product should be made on the basis of utility, aesthetics, security objectives and end use desired.

The BHMA numbers which indicate types and functions of hardware do not identify size, finish, material or design and are not intended to be used without necessary supplementary information.

Users of this Standard are cautioned over the selection of exit devices to be installed on fire doors. Only devices investigated for both fire and panic protection may be used. Labels employed by laboratories listing such devices bear the designation, "Fire Exit Hardware." Other devices, although suitable for many doors within a means of egress, may not be used with fire door assemblies. The fire door must also bear a label containing the phrase, "Fire Door to be equipped with Fire Exit Hardware".

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