

E48-21

IBC: 1010.2.9 (IFC:[BE]1010.2.9)

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2021 International Building Code

Revise as follows:

1010.2.9 Panic and fire exit hardware. Swinging doors serving a Group H occupancy and swinging doors serving rooms or spaces with an *occupant load* of 50 or more in a Group A or E occupancy shall not be provided with a latch or lock other than *panic hardware* or *fire exit hardware*.

Exceptions:

1. A main exit of a Group A occupancy shall be permitted to have locking devices in accordance with Section 1010.2.4, Item 3.
2. Doors provided with *panic hardware* or *fire exit hardware* and serving a Group A or E occupancy shall be permitted to be electrically locked in accordance with Section 1010.2.11 ~~or 1010.2.12~~.
3. Exit access doors serving occupied exterior areas shall be permitted to be locked in accordance with Section 1010.2.4, Item 8.
4. Courtrooms shall be permitted to be locked in accordance with Section 1010.2.13, Item 3.

Reason Statement: A recent change added sensor released doors to be used where panic hardware is required. Some have understood this section to not require panic hardware when sensor released locks are used, despite it explicitly stating that it applies to doors provided with panic hardware. Section 1010.2.12 of the code recognizes that motion sensors are not reliable when it comes to life-safety since a wall mounted push-button release is required adjacent to the door for use when the motion detector fails to release the door. This is not functionally equivalent to the reliability of listed panic hardware and is not a suitable substitute.

Cost Impact: The code change proposal will increase the cost of construction

A significant increase or decrease in cost is not expected since listed hardware is required either way. This change would revert the code to the 2015 language.

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