



7.2.1.6.3 Door Hardware Release of Electrically Locked Egress Door Assemblies.

ENHANCED CONTENT

Collapse

The provisions of 7.2.1.6.3 address door hardware release of electrically locked egress doors. Prior to the 2021 edition of the *Code*, these provisions were located with those for traditional locks and latches, and not within 7.2.1.6, which addresses specialized, nontraditional locking arrangements such as delayed-egress electrical locking systems and sensor-release of electrical locking systems. They were relocated without substantive technical revision to the special locking arrangement provisions of 7.2.1.6 for the 2021 edition to make the differences between them and sensor-release of electrical locking systems more obvious.



7.2.1.6.3.1

Door assemblies in the means of egress shall be permitted to be equipped with approved electrical locking systems released by the operation of door hardware provided that all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The hardware for egress-side occupant release of the electrical lock is affixed to the door leaf.
- (2) The hardware has an obvious method of operation that is readily operated in the direction of egress under all lighting conditions.
- (3) The hardware is capable of being operated with one hand in the direction of egress.
- (4) Operation of the hardware directly and immediately interrupts the power supply to the electric lock to unlock the door assembly in the direction of egress.
- (5)* Loss of power to the listed releasing hardware automatically unlocks the door assembly in the direction of egress.
- (6) Hardware for new installations is listed in accordance with UL 294, *Access Control System Units*.



7.2.1.6.2* Sensor-Release of Electrical Locking Systems.



7.2.1.6.2.1

Where permitted in Chapters **11** through **43**, door assemblies in the means of egress shall be permitted to be equipped with sensor-release electrical locking system hardware provided that all of the following criteria are met:

- (1) A sensor shall be provided on the egress side, arranged to electrically unlock the door leaf in the direction of egress upon detection of an approaching occupant.
- (2) Door leaves shall automatically electrically unlock in the direction of egress upon loss of power to the sensor or to the part of the locking system that electrically locks the door leaves.
- (3) Door locks shall be arranged to electrically unlock in the direction of egress from a manual release device complying with all of the following criteria:
 - (a) The manual release device shall be located on the egress side, 40 in. to 48 in. (1015 mm to 1220 mm) vertically above the floor, and within 60 in. (1525 mm) of the secured door openings, except as otherwise permitted by **7.2.1.6.2(3)(c)**.
 - (b) The requirement of **7.2.1.6.2(3)(a)** to locate the manual release device within 60 in. (1525 mm) of the secured door opening shall not apply to previously approved existing installations.

- (c) The manual release device shall be readily accessible and clearly identified by a sign that reads as follows: PUSH TO EXIT.
 - (d) When operated, the manual release device shall result in direct interruption of power to the electrical lock – independent of the locking system electronics – and the lock shall remain unlocked for not less than 30 seconds.
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- (4) Activation of the building fire-protective signaling system, if provided, shall automatically electrically unlock the door leaves in the direction of egress, and the door leaves shall remain electrically unlocked until the fire-protective signaling system has been manually reset.
 - (5) The activation of manual fire alarm boxes that activate the building fire-protective signaling system specified in [7.2.1.6.2\(4\)](#) shall not be required to unlock the door leaves.
 - (6) Activation of the building automatic sprinkler or fire detection system, if provided, shall automatically electrically unlock the door leaves in the direction of egress, and the door leaves shall remain electrically unlocked until the fire-protective signaling system has been manually reset.
 - (7) The egress side of sensor-release electrically locked egress doors, other than existing sensor-release electrically locked egress doors, shall be provided with emergency lighting in accordance with Section [7.9](#).
 - (8) Hardware for new installations shall be listed in accordance with UL 294, *Access Control System Units*.

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7.2.1.6.2.2

The provisions of [7.2.1.6.1](#) for delayed-egress electrical locking systems and [7.2.1.6.3](#) for door hardware release of electrically locked egress door assemblies shall not apply to door assemblies with sensor-release of electrical locking systems.

ENHANCED CONTENT

Collapse ✕

The provision of 7.2.1.6.2.2 is new to the 2021 edition of the Code and clarifies that the requirements of neither [7.2.1.6.1](#) (delayed-egress electrical locking systems) nor [7.2.1.6.3](#) (door hardware release of electrically locked egress door assemblies) applies to sensor-release of electrical locking systems.