

NSI - Technical Bulletin No: 0066

Implementation timescale for existing approved companies
NSI approved companies will need to be compliant with NCP 109 Issue 4 by the 30th September 2025.

• 3. Risk assessment

- A more structured approach to risk assessment including a new table detailing typical door types and their impact on Access Control Systems (ACS) design. This section now includes specific considerations for emergency and panic exit doors to ensure compliance with EN 179, EN 1125, and EN 13637.

5. Survey

The survey process must now consider compliance with BS 7273-4, particularly where the access control system interfaces with fire alarm systems or other emergency egress controls. This integration ensures that the access control system does not hinder emergency escape routes.

6. Equipment selection and installation

New guidelines detail the need for risk assessments and surveys to determine suitable control equipment and hardware. Access control solutions for emergency or panic exit doors must comply with EN 179, EN 1125, and EN 13637 standards. The guidelines also integrate requirements from BS 7273-4, detailing the installation of emergency manual release controls and the importance of consulting fire door manufacturers to ensure the integrity of fire-resisting doors is maintained.



NSI Code of Practice for the design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of Access Control Systems

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Implementation timescale for applicant companies

New applicant companies to NSI NACOSS Gold and Systems Silver schemes will be audited against NCP 109 Issue 4 with immediate effect. Any Improvement Needs recorded against clauses of the Standard will need to be satisfactorily addressed before approval can be granted.

Where an application for approval was already in progress with the NSI before the date of this Technical Bulletin, the approval will continue to progress against the appropriate standards.

Implementation timescale for existing approved companies

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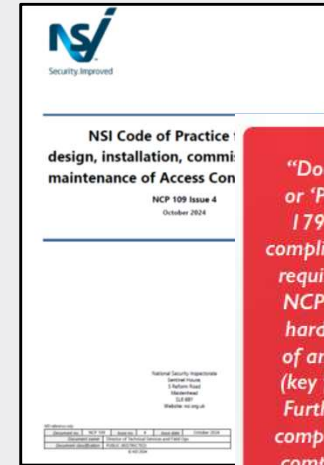
Table 1 - Door types

Basic description of the door	Door marking	
Non Fire Door, Non Escape/Panic Door not fitted with any CE marked lock or furniture (No mandatory requirements for locking type)		
Non Fire Door, Emergency Escape Door with CE Marked lock and furniture to BS EN 179. (Electronic Lock & Furniture to EN 179 required)		
Non Fire Door, Panic Escape Door with CE Marked lock and furniture to BS EN 1125. (Electronic Lock & Furniture to EN 1125 required)		
Fire Door, Non Escape Door (fire rated lock required) – Consultation with door manufacturers likely		
Fire Door, Emergency Escape Door with CE Marked lock and furniture to BS EN 179. (Fire rated Electronic Lock & Furniture to EN 179 required) - Consultation with door manufacturers likely		
Fire Door, Panic Escape Door with CE Marked lock and furniture to BS EN 1125. (Fire rated Electronic Lock & Furniture to EN 1125 required) - Consultation with door manufacturers likely		

Note: Door marking can give an indication of door type. However, this should not be solely relied upon.

Conclusion

NCP 109 Issue 4 introduces updates driven from CPR and building regs and information/network security guidelines along with bringing in some elements of BS7373-4 to make them mandatory thus reflecting the evolving needs of security and access control systems specifically surrounding the consideration of safe egress in the event of Fire, Emergency or Panic situations. It is crucial for all stakeholders, including designers, installers, and maintenance personnel, to familiarise themselves with these changes to ensure continued adherence to best practices and regulatory requirements.



“Doors classified as ‘Emergency Exit’ or ‘Panic Exit’ in accordance with EN 179 or EN 1125 must be fitted with compliant hardware, in order to meet the requirements of NSI’s Code of Practice NCP 109.4. The use of non-compliant hardware would prevent the issuance of an NSI Certificate of Compliance – (key for client and insurer confidence). Furthermore, installation of such non-compliant hardware by an NSI certified company would constitute a breach of NSI’s Approval Criteria.”

David Robinson
NSI Approval Schemes Manager