

D2.21

Operation of latch

- a) A door in a required exit, forming part of a required exit or in the path of travel to a required exit must be readily openable without a key from the side that faces a person seeking egress, by
 - i. a single hand downward action on a single device which is located between 900 mm and 1.1 m from the floor and if serving an area required to be accessible by Part D3—
 - A. be such that the hand of a person who cannot grip will not slip from the handle during the operation of the latch; and
 - B. have a clearance between the handle and the back plate or door face at the centre grip section of the handle of not less than 35 mm and not more than 45 mm; or
 - ii. a single hand pushing action on a single device which is located between 900 mm and 1.2 m from the floor.
- b) The requirements of (a) do not apply to a door that—
 - i. a vault, strong-room, sanitary compartment, or the like; or
 - ii. serves only, or is within—
 - A. a sole-occupancy unit in a Class 2 building or a Class 4 part of a building; or
 - B. a sole-occupancy unit in a Class 3 building (other than an entry door to a sole-occupancy unit of a boarding house, guest house, hostel, lodging house or backpacker accommodation); or
 - C. a sole-occupancy unit with a floor area not more than 200 m² in a Class 5, 6, 7 or 8 building; or
 - D. a space which is otherwise inaccessible to persons at all times when the door is locked; or
 - iii. serves the secure parts of a bank, detention centre, mental health facility, early childhood centre or the like and it can be immediately unlocked—
 - A. by operating a fail-safe control switch, not contained within a protective enclosure, to actuate a device to unlock the door; or a sole-occupancy unit in a Class 3 building (other than an entry door to a sole-occupancy unit of a boarding house, guest house, hostel, lodging house or backpacker accommodation); or
 - B. by hand by a person or persons, specifically nominated by the owner, properly instructed as to the duties and responsibilities involved and available at all times when the building is lawfully occupied so that persons in the building or part may immediately escape if there is a fire; or
 - iv. is fitted with a fail-safe device which automatically unlocks the door upon the activation of any sprinkler system complying with Specification E1.5 or smoke, or any other detector system deemed suitable in accordance with AS 1670.1 installed throughout the building; or

v. is in a Class 9a or 9c building and—

- A. is one leaf of a two-leaf door complying with D1.6(f)(i) or D1.6(f)(iv) provided that it is not held closed by a locking mechanism and is readily openable; and
- B. the door is not required to be a fire door or smoke door.

c) The requirements of (a) do not apply in a Class 9b building (other than a school, an early childhood centre or a building used for religious purposes) to a door in a required exit, forming part of a required exit or in the path of travel to a required exit serving a storey or room accommodating more than 100 persons, determined in accordance with D1.13, in which case it must be readily openable—

- i. without a key from the side that faces a person seeking egress; and
- ii. by a single hand pushing action on a single device such as a panic bar located between 900 mm and 1.2 m from the floor; and
- iii. where a two-leaf door is fitted, the provisions of (i) and (ii) need only apply to one door leaf if the appropriate requirements of D1.6 are satisfied by the opening of that one leaf.

NSW D2.21(c) and (d)

Vic D2.21(a)