Getting to know BS7273 Part 4 - the standard for how doors are opened, closed and controlled by fire systems

Fire Doors - Open or Closed?

It covers management of a wide range of door management systems:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Convenience</th>
<th>Security</th>
<th>Accessibility</th>
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Why is this important?

- Controlled doors slow the spread of a fire and help with the evacuation of people
- Incorrectly controlled doors can create a hole in your fire and smoke barrier

When should doors be released?

- The detection of the fire by automatic detection
- The actuation of an alarm by a manual fire alarm call point
- Manual Release as part of day to day use of the building
- Faults and disconnection of the fire detection system that prevents release of doors in a fire emergency
- Loss or failure of power supply to door management mechanism
- Door release mechanisms should be ‘fail-safe’ with timing as quick as 3 seconds and as long as 2 minutes

How does the fire alarm system control doors?

If there is a fault anywhere on the fire system that affects the release of doors in a fire emergency, fire doors must revert to their “failsafe” position to protect escape routes and prevent the spread of smoke in the event of a fire.

Categories

- Critical Fail-Safe for any fault that affects ability to release in a fire emergency as well as any fault on the critical signal path or power failure
- Standard Fail-Safe for any fault on the critical signal path or power failure
- Indirect (e.g. via access control) Fail-Safe for any fault on the critical signal path up to the interface with the access controller

A | Critical
B | Standard
C | Indirect

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