

EXITS & EXIT ROUTES E

SUBDIVISION E

MEANS OF EGRESS

Authority: Secs. 4, 6, 8, Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657); Secretary of Labor's Order Nos. 12-71 (36 FR 8754), (8-75-41 FR 25089), 9-83 (48 FR 35736) or 1-90 (55 FR 9033), 6-96 (62 FR 111), or 3-2000 (65 FR 50017), as applicable.

[58 FR 38308, June 30, 1993; 61 FR 9227, March 7, 1996; FR 67361, Nov. 7, 2002]

437-002-0041 Exits and Exit Routes.

(1) Application. This subpart does not apply to mobile workplaces, like vehicles or vessels.

(2) Definitions.

(a) Exit. The part of the exit route, that is a way out of the workplace (Like a door, stairwell or vestibule).

(b) Exit Route. A continuous, unobstructed path from anywhere in a work area to the exit.

(3) General.

(a) There must be permanent, unobstructed exit routes to get out of work areas safely during emergencies.

(b) There must be two or more exit routes depending on the size and layout of the work area and the number of people involved. A single exit route is acceptable only if all workers can get out through it safely during an emergency. Locate multiple exit routes apart from each other.

(4) Design.

(a) An exit must have enough openings to permit access to, or exit from, occupied areas. An interior opening into an exit must have a self-closing fire door that remains closed. Each fire door, its frame, and its hardware must be listed or approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory.

Note to paragraph (a): 29 CFR 1910.155(c)(3)(iv)(A) defines "listed," 29 CFR 1910.7 defines a "nationally recognized testing laboratory," and 29 CFR 1910.155 (c)(3) defines "approved."

(b) Walls or partitions that separate an exit from other areas must have at least a 1-hour fire resistance rating if the exit connects three stories or less. Materials that separate an exit must have at least a 2-hour fire resistance rating if the exit connects four stories or more.

(c) Exits must open from the inside without keys, tools or special knowledge. Devices that lock only from the outside are acceptable. There must be nothing on an exit door that could hinder its use during an emergency.