

From: brandon johnson [mailto:bjohnson@fsbna.com]
Sent: Friday, November 13, 2009 4:19 PM
To: CBSC (General Mail)
Subject: Title 24 2010

I am writing on behalf of the company I work for that manufactures door levers for commercial projects in North America.

Since first adopted in 1995 we have been required to comply with section 12-10-200 (f) as shown on page 3 of my attachment that states our levers must return to within ½” of the face of the door. In reading the draft of the proposed 2010 California building and fire codes I can find no mention of this requirement? It is in fact my hope that this section has been removed since this dramatically reduces the amount of aesthetic lever designs available for use commercially in the state of California, and considering it has not been adopted by any other state in its 15 years as a California only requirement, perhaps the 2010 codes will be California's first step toward conforming with the IBC standards.

I would greatly appreciate your response as to whether this requirement has been removed from the 2010 California Building and Fire Code.

Sincerely,

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA — THE RESOURCES AGENCY

GRAY DAVIS, Governor

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May 20, 2002

Door Hardware Consultants

Assistant State Fire Marshal Nancy Wolfe has asked me to respond to your questions regarding lever hardware outlined in your Facsimile Transmittal dated April 11, 2002.

In your facsimile you asked two questions. First you asked if the standard requiring the return of a lever handle to within ½ inch of the door face is still in place. And where you could find the citation.

The Standard, "*Single Point Latching or Locking Devices*" was formerly designated 12-33-2. The Standard was renumbered with the adoption of the 1995 edition of Part 12 of Title 24 of the California Building Standards Code to 12-10-2. This standard is still in place and can be found in Part 12 of the current Building Standards Code. I have enclosed a copy for your information. It is important to note that Section 12-10-200 (a) indicates that this standard applies to single point locks and latches on required exit doors in all occupancies other than Group R or M which have an occupant load of 10 or less. It would appear therefore, that the return to ½ inch of the surface of the door does not apply to hotel rooms that would have 10 or less occupants.

In your second question you indicated that the hotel is a Group R Occupancy. You are correct that the facility classification falls in the Group R category. The facility is in fact classified as a Group R, Division 1 Occupancy, and as such is regulated by this office. You further asked if the entry doors to the rooms and suites are exempt from the requirement for the return to within ½ inch of the face of the door and even exempt from requirement to use lever operated hardware altogether.

May 20, 2002

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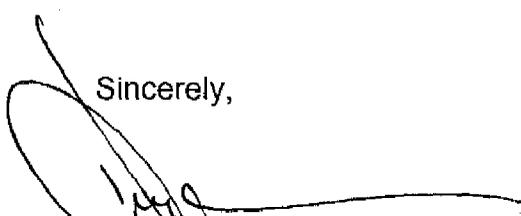
As indicated above it appears that the levers on individual hotel room doors can be exempted from the requirement of the return to within ½ inch of the face of the door provided the occupant load of the room is 10 or less.

The requirements for the use of lever actuated hardware are found in Chapter 11B of the 1998 edition of the California Building Standards Code. Division III of that Chapter deals with Accessibility for Entrances, Exits and Paths of Travel. The General requirements for the accessibility are outlined in Section 1133B. Specifically, Section 1133B.2.5.1 of Chapter 11B (enclosed) outlines the requirements for the installation of hand-activated hardware. This section states in part, "Latching and locking doors that are hand-activated and which are in a path of travel shall be operable with a single effort by lever-type hardware, panic bars, push-pull activating bars or other hardware designed to provide passage without requiring the ability to grasp the opening hardware...."

It is important to note that this section allows an exception for levers on the corridor side of the individual hotel or motel unit when the bolt and unlatching operation is key operated, and the key is a "large bow" (2 inches) or a "half bow" 1¼ inches type key.

I trust the information provided answers your questions. Should you need further clarification or have additional questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



HUGH COUNCIL, Chief
Construction Services

Enclosures

1998 CALIFORNIA REFERENCED STANDARDS CODE
(Part 12, Title 24, C.C.R.)

12-10-200

Chapter 12-10-2
EXITS

SINGLE POINT LATCHING OR LOCKING DEVICES
STANDARD 12-10-2

STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Scope

Sec. 12-10-200.

(a) **Builders Hardware, Exit Doors.** These design requirements and testing procedures apply to builders hardware, single-point latches and locks, intended for use on required means of egress doors in other than Group R and M Occupancies with an occupant load of 10 or less. It is the intent that devices designed and tested in accordance with these procedures will develop data to enable the State Fire Marshal to determine the suitability of latches and locks on means of egress doors. Alternate designs and materials may be submitted with substantiating test data. If, after evaluation, devices are found to comply with the intent of these procedures, they may also be recognized for approval and listing by the State Fire Marshal.

(b) **Fire Doors.** Builders hardware single-point latches and locks intended for use on doors bearing a fire-retardant classification shall also conform to the construction standards and performance tests specified in Fire Door Assembly Tests, SFM 12-7-4, Section 12-7-400.

(c) **Listing by Approved Listing Agency.** Listing by an approved listing agency shall not be construed as necessarily indicating compliance in all respects with the requirements of these design requirements and test procedures for single-point latching or locking devices. The test report of the approved listing agency may be filed for review and after evaluation, if it is found to provide evidence of conformance, the single-point latching or locking device may be recognized for approval and listing.

(d) **Definitions.**

1. **Inside knob.** Inside knob means the knob, lever, bar or paddle on the side of the door which must be turned or depressed to unlatch or unlock the door to permit egress.

2. **Outside knob.** Outside knob means the knob on the corridor side of room to corridor doors, or the knob on the exterior side of a door leading to the exterior.

Instructions

Sec. 12-10-201. Approved installation instructions shall be provided by the manufacturer. Instructions shall be illustrated and shall include directions and information adequate to ensure proper and safe installation of the device.

Design

Sec. 12-10-202.

(a) **Finish.** Builders hardware shall have a smooth finish with no sharp or burred edges. Knobs may be knurled or have an abrasive finish for ease of turning or identification as may be required. Strikes shall be plain with curved lip. Strike and lip extending beyond jamb have rounded corners.

(b) **Knob, Lever or "T" Handle Actuated.** Single-point latch bolts and/or dead bolts shall be retracted from the strike to release the door by a knob, lever or "T" handle with not to exceed $\frac{1}{4}$ turn. A thumb piece or thumb turn is not acceptable for this purpose.

(c) **Tested Design.** Builders hardware single-point latching or locking devices shall be designed to retract the latch bolt and/or dead bolt after application of the horizontal forces and the endurance tests without exceeding the releasing torque specified in 12-10-204 (h).

(d) **Knobs.** Knobs shall have a minimum diameter of 2 inches and a maximum diameter of $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

(e) **"T" Handle.** "T" handles shall be oval-shaped and have minimum dimensions of $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch by 1 inch at center portion with $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch projection.

(f) **Levers.** The lever of lever actuated latches or locks shall be curved with a return to within $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of the door to prevent catching on the clothing of persons during egress.

(g) **Self-releasing Knob.** The inside knob shall be free at all times. Any locking, stopworks, or shut-out mechanism shall not prevent retracting the latch bolt or dead bolt to release the door by turning of the inside knob, or "T" handle, or depressing the inside lever, bar or paddle.

(h) **Dead Bolt Operation.** Operation of the inside knob shall retract both latch bolt and dead bolt simultaneously. The opening in the strike shall be of such dimensions that when the flat of the latch bolt is forced against the edge of the latch hole there shall be no pressure against the side of the dead bolt.

(i) **Springs.** Retraction of the latch bolt and/or dead bolt shall not depend on springs.

(j) **Backset.** Backset shall be not less than $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches or more than 5 inches.

(k) **Throw.** Latches shall have a minimum latch throw of $\frac{1}{2}$ inch. Latches intended for use on fire endurance rated doors shall also conform to the requirements of SFM 12-7-4, Section 12-7-400, Fire Door Assembly Tests.

(l) **Roller Latches.** Roller latches intended for use on room to corridor doors shall have a minimum projection of $\frac{3}{8}$ inch excluding any coating or sound deadening material. Stops or staking shall be provided to provide a minimum projection of $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. Spring design shall be such as will require an opening force of 20 pounds when the roller projects $\frac{3}{16}$ inch in a door and frame with $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch jamb clearance. Adjustment of the roller projection shall not be possible from the front of face plate.

Construction Materials

Sec. 12-10-203.

(a) **Cases, Interior Working Parts.** Cases, latch or lock enclosures, and interior working parts shall be of brass, bronze, steel, monel, stainless steel, or of materials equivalent in mechanical strength to brass or bronze. Cases of mortise locks may be of cast iron.

(b) **Latch Bolts, Strikes.** Latch bolts and strikes shall be of brass, bronze, monel, stainless steel or materials equivalent in mechanical strength having corrosion resistance equivalent to brass or bronze.

(c) **Corrosion Resistance.** Cases, enclosures and internal working parts shall have corrosion resistance equivalent to cadmium plating not less than 0.00015 inch thick or zinc plating not less than 0.0004 inch thick, or processed to give equal corrosion