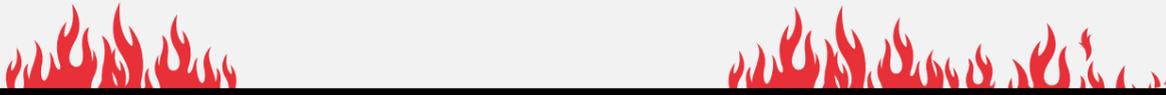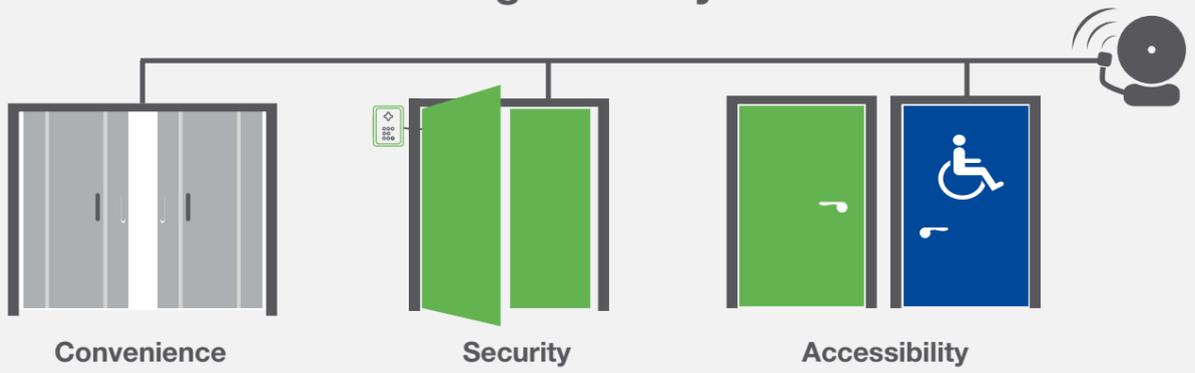# Getting to know BS7273 Part 4 - the standard for how doors are opened, closed and controlled by fire systems

Fire Doors - Open or Closed?

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

Convenience   Security   Accessibility

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 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
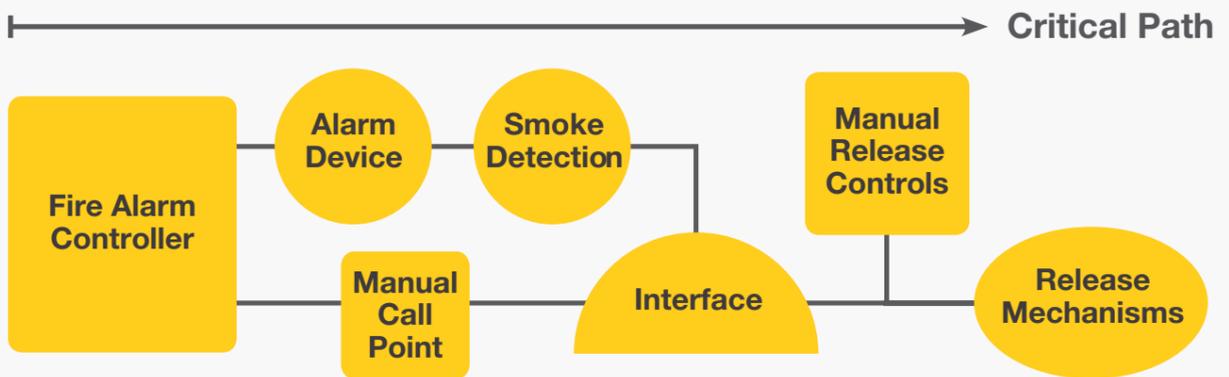
Loss or failure of **power supply** to door management mechanism

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?

Critical Path

Fire Alarm Controller

Alarm Device

Smoke Detection

Manual Call Point

Interface

Manual Release Controls

Release Mechanisms

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.

Release mechanisms should be **tested** at least once per week

Categories

A 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 a power failure

B Standard
Fail-Safe for any fault on the critical signal path or power failure

C Indirect
(e.g. via access control) Fail-Safe for any fault on the critical signal path up to the interface with the access controller