

Break Glass Devices

Some confusion can exist regarding the installed break glass devices you may find within your workplace. This handout will help you identify the different varieties found in buildings and the consequences of activating them.

Manual Call Point (Red)

Manual Call Points are a manual way of activating an installed fire alarm system and will initiate the emergency procedures for your workplace. A Manual Call Point would be activated if a fire emergency is present and you have found the situation before the installed alarm system has been activated, or you have been directed to activate it by a Warden. If installed, other life saving features of the building will also be engaged upon activation. This may include de-activation of all swipe card readers. Activating the Manual Call Point would normally also initiate an alarm signal, notifying the Fire Brigade. A call to Triple 0 should still be made to ensure the Fire Brigade has been notified by the automated system.



Emergency Call Point (White)

A Emergency Call Point is a manual way of activating the alarms within the building without notifying the fire brigade. This initiates the emergency procedures and notifies the Warden team that there is an emergency on site. Emergency Call Points will not activate any other installed life saving features of the building. These are a practical solution for emergencies when fire is not the threat. Ensure the correct Emergency Service is notified via Triple 0 depending on the situation.

Emergency Door Release

Emergency Door Releases can be found in a variety of different colours including white, green and blue. Activation of an Emergency Door Release will de-activate the door's security allowing occupants to pass through from one section of a building to another. An Emergency Door Release does not activate any installed fire alarm systems; they are however monitored by the buildings security system. Under fire trip conditions security access is normally removed (de-activated) in some high secure areas, however some systems will still be maintained. An Emergency Door Release is designed to de-activate a secure door should your swipe card not work and should not be activated unless it is an emergency.



Emergency Gas Suppression

Emergency Gas Suppressions are generally found outside data rooms and are a manual way of releasing Gas Suppressants into a room. The Gas Suppressants are designed to quell a fire quickly to minimise damage to electrical equipment. Warning lights will indicate the gas has been released and not to enter the room. The suppressants should be contained within the room, however evacuation away from the area is recommended. Emergency Gas Suppression should only be activated by trained personnel. Activation will also trigger any automated fire alarm systems and any other life saving features of the building.