

ANSI/BHMA A156.29-2001



AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

FOR

**EXIT LOCKS, EXIT LOCKS WITH EXIT ALARMS, EXIT ALARMS, ALARMS FOR EXIT
DEVICES**



SPONSOR

BUILDERS HARDWARE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS INSTITUTE, INC.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

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FOREWORD (This Foreword is not a part of ANSI/BHMA A156.29)

The general classification of builders hardware includes a wide variety of items which are divided into several categories. To recognize this diversity, a sectional classification system has been established. Auxiliary Locks and associated products is one such section and this Standard is the result of the collective efforts of members of the Builders Hardware Manufacturers Association, Inc. who manufacture this product. The total Product Standards effort is, therefore, a collection of sections, each covering a specific category of items.

Performance tests, and, where necessary, dimensional requirements, have been established to insure safety, security and stability to which the public is entitled. There are no restrictions on design, except for those dimensional requirements imposed for the reasons given above. It is also required that locks fit certain cut-out dimensions.

This Standard is not intended to obstruct, but rather to encourage, the development of improved products, methods, and materials. The BHMA recognizes that errors will be found, items will become obsolete, and new products, methods, and materials will be developed. With this in mind, the Association plans to update, correct, and revise these Standards on a regular basis. It shall also be the responsibility of manufacturers to request such appropriate revisions.

In most cases, products have been described in grade levels related to performance and security. Choice of grade and specific product are made on the basis of utility, aesthetics, security objectives and end use desired. When two different graded products are combined in an assembly, the whole assembly carries the lower grade of the products.

The BHMA numbers which indicate types of hardware do not identify grade, finish, or design and are not intended to be used without necessary supplementary information. Individual manufacturers' catalogs are consulted.

Users of this Standard should consult applicable local building codes as to requirements affecting the functions of locks used on fire doors and doors within a means of egress. Some communities require the use of exterior door locks having a dead bolt with a 1 in. (25.4 mm) projection for the purpose of providing greater security. Only functions compatible with the requirements of the applicable building codes are used.

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1. SCOPE

1.1 ANSI/BHMA A156.29 establishes requirements for Exit Locks, and Exit Locks with Exit Alarms, Exit Alarms and Alarms for Exit Devices and includes operational and finish tests. Alarms for Exit Devices include operational tests only.

1.2 Tests described in this Standard are performed under laboratory conditions. In actual usage, results vary because of installation, maintenance and environmental conditions.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 **Actuating Bar.** The activating mechanism of an exit device is located on the egress side of a door and extends at least half the width of the door. The active surface of the actuating bar shall be visually and physically distinct from the rest of the device. Refer to local codes for location and length. Also called cross bar or push pad.

2.2 **Exit Alarm.** An electrically operated monitoring device indicating, either audibly or by other signal, unauthorized opening of a door and is either stand alone, integral, or used in conjunction with an exit device or exit lock.

2.3 **Exit Device.** A door latching assembly incorporating an actuating member usually called an actuating bar which releases the latch bolt(s) upon the application of force in the direction of exit travel.

2.4 **Exit Lock.** A lock operated by an actuating bar or paddle and used for egress where exit devices are not required. Often includes an Exit Alarm. Does not meet ANSI/BHMA A156.3 Exit Device requirements.

2.5 **Stand Alone Exit Alarm.** Any exit alarm whose housing is not physically connected to the exit lock or exit device.

3. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Products meeting the requirements of this standard are Grade 1.

3.2 Failure of any test results in complete failure to the standard.

3.3 Exit Devices with Exit Alarms are also subject to the requirements of ANSI/BHMA A156.3.

3.4 Exit Locks shall be labeled or listed by a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL).

3.5 **Values.** Required values in this Standard are given in US units. The SI (metric) equivalents are approximate. All values which do not carry specific tolerances or are not marked maximum or minimum shall have the following tolerances: Linear dimensions shall be $\pm 1/16$ in (1.6 mm). Pounds or pound force shall be $\pm 5\%$. Angular measurements shall be ± 4 degrees. Voltage measurements shall be ± 5 percent. Temperature measurements shall be ± 4 degrees F (± 2 degrees C).

3.6 **Normative references** ANSI/BHMA 156.3, Exit Devices; ESD Immunity IEC 61000-4-2:1995; RF Immunity IEC 61000-4-3:1995; EFT Immunity IEC 61000-4-4:1995; ANSI/BHMA A156.18 2000, Materials and Finishes.