DIFFERENCE BETWEEN FIRE DOORS AND FIRE-EXIT DOORS

✓ The difference between a Fire Door and a Fire-Exit door confuses many individuals.

✓ Many institutions end up buying Fire-doors while their main requirements are secure Fire-Exit Doors

✓ Some install fire-exit doors (Steel or wooden doors with push-bars) where they need fire-doors

✓ Others mistake fire-exit doors (especially those made of steel) to be ALWAYS High Security Doors.

Before an institution or an organization decides on which doors to be fire-doors and which ones to be fire-exit doors, it is important to clearly understand the differences.

A. FIRE-DOOR

1) A fire-door is normally an Internal Door.

2) Has compressed fire-proof material (rock-wool) between the door’s steel plates.

3) Protects an escape route through a building in a fire situation

4) Compartmentalizes a fire, to stop flames and smoke spreading from one section of the building to another. Examples of locations where a fire-door can be installed include stairwells, where they protect the stairs from corridors opening on to them; kitchens/catering facilities, storage areas that house combustible materials such as paper and card and boiler rooms.

5) MUST REMAIN CLOSED WHEN THERE IS FIRE preferably with special Fire-Proof Door Closer.

6) Depending on location, may have push-bars like fire-exit doors

Fire-proof Door Closer ensures that during fire, the door is kept tightly held onto its frame thus stopping smoke and even fire from spreading to other places. Only Fire-door closers are suitable for fire-doors, NOT STANDARD DOOR CLOSERS.

SUPERLOCK FIRE-PROOF DOOR

1) Made of certified steel

2) Has compressed Rockwool (fire-material) inside.

3) Operated by high security cylinders and keys

4) Turn of a key drives 4-locking bolts on the latch side

5) Two permanent reinforcement bolts on the hinges-side (total of 6 locking bolts)

6) Push-bar may be installed ONLY IF NECESSARY (If the door serves as an escape root for many)

NOTE: There are no several locking bolts like in standard High Security doors since the door’s inner fire-material should be completely sealed from flames and smoke. Extra locking bolts would thus compromise the door’s fire resistance rating. Origin: Superlock, Israel
2. FIRE-EXIT DOOR

1) A fire exit door is often an External door and hence, under normal conditions, should also be a security door.
2) Allows unhindered escape into a place of safety while stopping un-authorized access from the outside when closed
3) Should open in the direction of traffic flow.
4) For a public escape, the door should always remain open
5) For private buildings, companies or institutions, a push-bar from inside is highly recommended
6) An alarm system can be installed so that during an emergency situation, or whenever a push-bar is pushed and the door opens, an alarm system is activated.

SUPERLOCK FIRE-EXIT DOORS

1) Made of certified steel plates.
2) Operated by a high security cylinder and keys.
3) 10 Locking bolts by turn of a key.
4) Outer handle is dead
5) Push-bar installed inside (Recommended)
6) Thumb-turn Locking Cylinder inside or key can be kept in emergency break glass.
7) The door can be linked to an emergency alarm system

Origin: Superlock, Israel

IMPORTANT NOTE:
Leading Locks recommends that Fire-Exit Doors are also High Security Doors. This is because there are several instances where home or office breakages have been done though back-doors or vulnerable fire-exit doors.

Disadvantages of Installing a FIRE-DOOR (Internal Door) as an Exit (External) Door

1) The door will not be serving the purpose for which it was specifically designed if installed externally.
2) A Fire-proof door has limited burglar-proof features (locking bolts) compared to High Security Exit/External doors. The door will thus not resist intense forced entry from outside as a High Security Exit Door would.

CONCLUSION.
A FIRE-DOOR SHOULD NOT BE INSTALLED EXTERNALLY BUT INTERNALLY TO PROTECT FIRE FROM SPREADING INTO SPECIFIC AREAS OR ROOMS. FOR A SECURITY FIRE-EXIT DOOR, SIMPLY GO FOR A HIGH SECURITY EXTERNAL/EXIT DOOR WITH FIRE-EXIT FEATURES (PUSH-BAR))....BUT NOT A FIRE-DOOR!
For other free information on our Security doors, contact us on: leadinglocks@leadinglocks.com