

FIRE PROTECTION

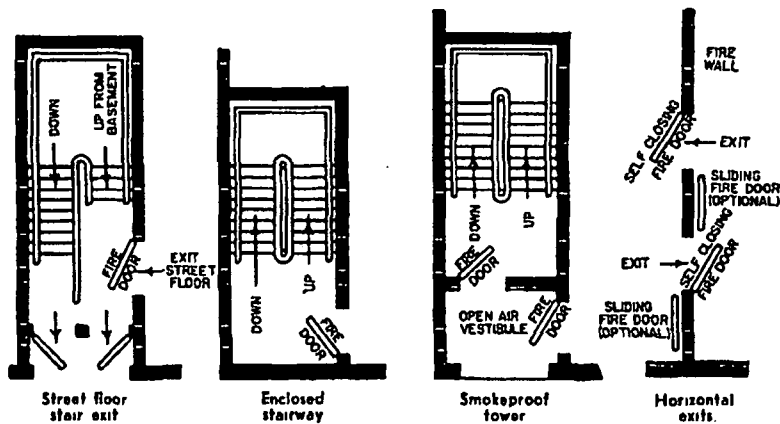


Fig. 33-1 Plan views of types of emergency exits. Stair enclosure, usually of masonry, prevents fire on any floor trapping persons above. Smokeproof tower is better, as opening to air at each floor largely prevents chance of smoke in stairway. Horizontal exit provides a quick refuge, lessens need of hasty flight down stairs. Horizontal sliding fire doors provided for safeguarding property values are arranged to close automatically in case of fire if open. Swinging doors are self-closing. Two wall openings are needed for exit in two directions.

Courtesy National Fire Protection Association

Principles of Fire Protection

Fire protection is a specialized field in which voluminous engineering information has been developed about its many detailed aspects. In the absence of a fire protection engineer within an organization, the person responsible for overall industrial safety should be familiar with the sources of this information if not with the complete technology.

Authoritative fire protection literature is available from such organizations as the National Fire Protection Association, National Board of Fire Underwriters, and Factory Mutual Engineering Division of Associated Factory Mutual Fire Insurance Companies. These are discussed in Chapter 12, "Sources of Help for the Safety Man."^{*}

Fire insurance companies and some trade associations^{**} publish information on fire hazards and recommendations for prevention and protection in their respective fields. The safety engineer with special fire problems should seek specific advice from

these trade associations, as well as from his fire insurance carrier, local fire inspection bureau or fire department, and the governmental agency having jurisdiction.

Prevention of personal injury or loss of life by fire should be the first objective of all fire protection. Life safety, where involved, is given primary consideration in all the fire protection recommendations made in this manual.

^{*}For a complete listing consult Section 2, *Fire Protection Handbook*, 12 ed., published by the National Fire Protection Association, 60 Batterymarch St., Boston.

^{**}Many are listed in Chapter 12 also. For a complete listing see the latest *Directory of National Associations of Businessmen* published by the U.S. Department of Commerce and also available from the U.S. Govt. Printing Office, Washington, D.C.