

5. Emergency Evacuation Strategies for People with Determination.

5.1. General

- 5.1.1.** The five general categories of physical disabilities are
- Mobility Impairment
 - Visual Impairment
 - Hearing Impairment
 - Speech Impairment
 - Cognitive Impairment
- 5.1.2.** The major emergency evacuation components in a building or structure are
- Emergency Notification (Alarm)
 - Means of Egress
- 5.1.3.** The Challenges faced by physically people with determination can be as obvious as not being able to alert themselves with building emergency notification systems and when alerted, not being able to maneuver through building features for safe evacuation.
- 5.1.4.** To overcome these challenges buildings need to be “Accessible” providing audio and visual alarm notifications and provide accessible routes and features that enable people with determination to maneuver easily to safety during emergencies.
- 5.1.5.** Following guidelines shall be followed to prepare emergency strategies in buildings depending on the presence of people with various disabilities.

5.2. Evacuation of Mobility Impaired People

- 5.2.1.** Mobility Impaired people may not have difficulty in hearing or looking. The standard building Fire Alarm and visual notification signals will serve their purpose to alert mobility impaired people and warn them of the emergency and need to vacate the building.
- 5.2.2.** The building shall have accessible routes in compliance with this chapter, providing accessible circulation paths, accessible doors, accessible refuge areas, accessible stairs and accessible elevators.
- 5.2.3.** The building Signage and Notification systems shall comply with this chapter and shall clearly identify the accessible routes to enable the mobility impaired people to find the accessible routes easily and quickly.
- 5.2.4.** Where mobility impaired people can not use the accessible routes and need assistance, area of refuge such as dedicated area of refuges, corridors of non fire floors or exit stair landings can provide temporary safety from emergency situations in the building.
- 5.2.5.** Where accessible elevators are provided and are part of building evacuation strategy, facility management or Civil Defence personnel can initiate mobility impaired people evacuation using such elevators.