

# Essential Safety Measures

Essential Safety Measures are defined as the fire and life safety items installed or constructed in a building to ensure adequate levels of fire safety over the life of the building. They include all the traditional building fire services such as sprinklers, hydrants, portable extinguishers and mechanical services. They also include passive fire safety equipment such as fire doors, rated structures and paths of travel to exits.

**Buildings constructed or substantially renovated after 1994** are issued with an Occupancy Permit which defines the Essential Safety Measures in the building. The permit also defines the maintenance program required for each Essential safety Measure. Under part 12 of the 2006 Building regulations (Vic), the owners of these properties are required to maintain all Essential safety Measures installed on the property as prescribed and to annually report on their maintenance by completing an Essential Safety Measures Report.

**Buildings constructed before 1994** have no specific schedule of Essential Safety Measures. Owners however, are still required to maintain any Measures installed on the property.

New Laws for Essential Safety Measures.

Under new regulations, by June 13, 2009, mandatory reporting of Essential safety Measure Maintenance is required for both pre and post 1994 constructed buildings (excluding class 1 buildings) by completion of an annual Essential Safety Measures Report.

In order to complete an *Essential Safety Measures Report* by June 13 2009, a compliant maintenance program must be in place by June 13, 2008