

# Understanding the Distinction: Maintained vs. Non-Maintained Emergency Lights

## Introduction:

Emergency lights play a crucial role in ensuring the safety of people during unexpected power outages or emergencies. These lights illuminate escape routes and critical areas, allowing individuals to navigate through unfamiliar surroundings. When it comes to emergency lighting, two common types are maintained and non-maintained lights. In this blog, we'll delve into the differences between these two categories, their applications, and how they contribute to overall safety measures.

## Maintained Emergency Lights:

Maintained emergency lights are designed to operate continuously, regardless of whether there is a power outage or not. They are commonly found in areas that require constant illumination, such as hospitals, shopping centres, and large public buildings. Maintained lights are directly connected to the main power supply and have a backup battery system that automatically activates in case of power failure. This ensures a seamless transition from regular lighting to emergency illumination, providing constant visibility for occupants.

## Non-Maintained Emergency Lights:

On the other hand, non-maintained emergency lights are specifically intended for emergency use only. They remain in a standby mode when the main power is functioning and only activate during power outages or when manually activated through an emergency switch. Non-maintained lights are typically found in areas with low occupancy, such as storage rooms, stairwells, or small office spaces. These lights rely solely on backup batteries, allowing them to conserve power and extend their runtime during emergencies.

## Distinguishing Features:

The primary distinction between maintained and non-maintained emergency lights lies in their power source and operational mode. Maintained lights are constantly powered by the main electrical supply, utilising backup batteries as a failsafe during power disruptions. In contrast, non-maintained lights solely rely on backup batteries and activate independently when needed.

## Applications:

Maintained emergency lights are suitable for areas where continuous illumination is critical, ensuring occupants can safely evacuate during an outage. These lights are valuable in large public settings, as they provide consistent visibility, reducing panic and aiding navigation. Non-maintained lights, with their limited power consumption, are ideal for low-occupancy areas where minimal lighting is sufficient to guide individuals towards exits or safe zones.

## Conclusion:

Understanding the difference between maintained and non-maintained emergency lights is essential for implementing effective safety measures. Maintained lights offer continuous illumination, relying on backup power for uninterrupted functionality. Non-maintained lights, on the other hand, activate only during emergencies or power outages, conserving power for crucial moments. Both types contribute to the overall safety of buildings, providing occupants with the necessary visibility to evacuate or find safe areas. By considering the specific needs and occupancy levels of different spaces, appropriate emergency lighting solutions can be chosen to enhance safety and preparedness.