



P.O. Box 250 Brighton Vic. 3186
Ph: 613 9593 2019
Fax: 613 9593 2099
Mob: 0411 473 512
Email: sales@wayout.com.au
www.wayout.com.au

BUILDING EXAMPLE ONE:

Brisbane International Airport

Brisbane, Australia.

Specification:

- A high traffic density public building. The requirement was that in case of an emergency, with limited visibility (smoke) and or a total power failure (total darkness) the public would be automatically, with clear and simple to understand directions, directed to designated points for safe evacuation.
- Building had long corridors and multiple exits, stairs and ramps.
- The system was required to be flexible, and easily maintained, repaired and replaced. Changes were expected to be made to the layout to the building after it was opened.

Design characteristics

For Security and decor reasons, the evacuation systems had to be non-intrusive and therefore not visible in normal operating conditions.

System materials

The following materials were used in the system.
Rigid PVC strip panels attached to:

- Aluminum Skirting boards that were colour matched to carpets.
- Aluminum Architrave's that were colour matched to the door surrounds.
- Luminous paint that was painted into the stair Handrails and external stairs.
- A luminous strip was inserted into the stair nosing.
- Polypropylene signage.

Result achieved

Brisbane International Airport has one of the most advanced passive low-level location emergency evacuation systems in the world for a building of its type. Unless it is specifically demonstrated, the system is almost impossible to be seen in normal operating conditions. The Airport had internal alterations, after opening. In the annual maintenance survey, modification to the evacuation system was completed without difficulty or interference to the building users, maintaining the overall system.



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BUILDING EXAMPLE: TWO

The Shell Building

1 Spring Street, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Specification

- A High Rise Central Business District building for office and administration purposes.
- A system was required for the speedy and safe evacuation of staff via the fire stairs, in event of an emergency evacuation, with smoke and total lack of power (total darkness) in existence.
- Other points of the building that could have total power failure, lifts, plant rooms, muster stations, were required to have a system that would allow for the illumination of and the easy access to emergency equipment including switches, phones, buttons, etc.
- The system was required to be powered via the minimum lighting requirements for emergency stairs.

Design Characteristics

The system required that when the state of total darkness existed, the lumination of the stairs caused by the luminous material alone, was sufficient for the evacuee's to able to safely negotiate the stairs.

System materials

- Luminous paint.
- Luminous custom signs for lights, plant rooms, muster points.

Result achieved

The Shell Building is one of the best examples of an emergency evacuation system in Australia for a High Rise building. It has a very user-friendly system that is designed to get staff out quickly. In evacuation tests it has achieved its objectives and satisfies any criteria for an evacuation system.



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BUILDING EXAMPLE: THREE

Melbourne Exhibition Centre

2 Clarendon Street, South Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Specification

- An exhibition hall that is a "shell" when mused. A system was required to be able to fit any configuration of an exhibitor's floor plan.
- The centre had very high-density traffic. There would be no natural line of sight to exits because of the configuration of stand and exhibitors booths.
- It was assumed that an emergency would have extreme visibility problems (configuration of exhibition stands combined with smoke) and total power failure (complete darkness).

Design Characteristics

A floor marking system was required that could be placed in the corridors separating booths and stands. It would provide a path in an emergency and would direct people which way to turn at intersections of booth and stands to lead a safe and quick exit path.

System materials

- Carpet tiles with pathway signs in the tile.
- Polypropylene substrate exit signs.

Result achieved

Part of the exhibition requirements is that they have carpet tiles on walkways. At strategic points carpet tiles with luminous signs and messages are placed down to ensure that whatever the configuration there is a safety exit path for the people attending the exhibition. The tile is reusable and gives the exhibition centre a complete and highly flexible evacuation system for all exhibitions.



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BUILDING EXAMPLE FOUR

A COLD STORE FACILITY

Sydney. New South Wales, Australia

Specification

- A large commercial cold store that was maintained at minus 20 c. Inside the cold room the lighting was very dim.
- An exit path was required for employees in times of power failure.
- During this time, the room would be in a state of total blackness, due to the sealing of the room.
- A photoluminescent system was required due to heat emission levels in powered systems.

Design characteristics

The very low levels of light in the lighting system was the only powering system available for the photoluminescent system. The cold had to be allowed for in any adhesive system to be used to mark out an exit track in the darkness.

System materials

- Special signs, with unusual technical specification for existing low lighting power sources, were developed to allow the photoluminescent system to be powered under the limits of the existing lighting system.
- Special fixing system was designed to allow for the cold.

Result achieved

The results were a very effective exit path for employees when the power went off and they were in a state of blackness. The new, highly innovative signs were able to operate effectively in the very low power available. The cold had no effect on the signs or the adhesion system.



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BUILDING EXAMPLE FIVE

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY

Auckland, New Zealand

Specification

- An evacuation system was required for high density student access building.
- The walls of the buildings were painted in a very complex colouring pattern and the design of the colour scheme was complex. The pattern involved was a series of shades each merging into each other.
- The evacuation system was required to be colour matched to the walls.
- The final look was that the colours would not be disturbed by a "foreign" colour creating disharmony into the evolving patterns.

System materials

Paint was manufactured and coloured to the colour PMS numbers given by the architectural team.

Result achieved

- The evacuation system was painted directly onto the walls. The finish was matched to the colour of the walls. The system was largely invisible to those who did not know its existence.
- On testing the luminosity of the system was unaffected by the paint pigment.



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BUILDING EXAMPLE SIX

HERITAGE BUILDINGS

Sydney Underground Railway System. Sydney, Australia

- A evacuation system was required for platforms. The area had high traffic levels and were in a high vandalism risk area.
- The walls of the platform were a ceramic tile and the evacuation system could not be allowed to alter the character of the walls on the platforms.
- A brand new technology was created by manufacturing new ceramic tiles in the heritage style, with the evacuation message fired into the tile, creating the evacuation system.

The effect

- The tile could be placed into the wall and the heritage character was not interfered with. Because the tile was set into the walls, it was vandal proof.
- The system was non-intrusive, the tiles that had been fired with evacuation messages could only be recognized by close inspection, and maintained the character of the environment.

Canterbury City Council Building Christchurch, New Zealand.

In keeping with the traditional nature of the building, native timber was used for exit signs from rooms. An illuminated system for these exit signs was required. The luminous material was placed in cut inserts into the timber allowing for a heritage exit sign in native timber and also allowing for an emergency exit system, in the one sign.



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EXAMPLE SEVEN

Maritime Vessel Spirit of Tasmania,

Station Pier, Port of Melbourne, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Specification

- A 1300 passenger and car ferry servicing the Launceston, Tasmania to Melbourne, Victoria, route.
- A system was required to inform a person who had never been on the vessel before, the correct evacuation path, from where they were positioned to the designated muster point in the shortest possible time and with no confusion or panic.
- It was assumed there was no electricity and high density smoke.
- The "Lum Ink" Low Location Lighting system had to be incorporated into the existing evacuation and muster station marking system.
- The Vessel had been fully booked several months in advance and could not be taken off service for a major installation.
- There was to be minimal interference with passengers.
- No modifications to the existing lighting system were possible.

Design Characteristics

There were very low light readings on the Spirit of Tasmania, Some areas had readings as low as 4 lux of light..

System materials

The system was based on a 40mm and 80mm aluminum extrusion with a "Lum Ink" luminous insert, placed into the extrusion. Printed onto the inserts was a custom designed directional system that complimented the existing evacuation system and muster point direction system.

Result achieved

The Spirit of Tasmania has a very advanced evacuation system. During installation there was no interference with the passengers and the vessel remained in service. The existing lighting system was not modified. The system is highly flexible and modular and easily understood. If followed the instruction are simple and clear and passengers cannot be trapped into dead ends.