

ESCAPE DEVICES

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Revised

1. **PURPOSE:** The purpose of this aeronautical recommended practice is to establish criteria for installation which will ensure rapid and effective use of emergency evacuation equipment in the event of emergency.

2. **DEFINITION:** This ARP deals with emergency evacuation devices installed for the purpose of assisting airplane cabin occupants to the ground from emergency exits.

NOTE: It is not the purpose of this ARP to specify design methods, mechanisms or equipment to be used in accomplishment of the objectives set forth herein.

3. **DETAIL RECOMMENDATIONS:** The following detail criteria are recommended:

3.1 **Escape Devices for Floor Level Exits:**

- 3.1.1 Each floor level emergency exit, other than those located over the wing, should be equipped with a device to assist occupants in descending to the ground.
- 3.1.2 The evacuation device should be capable of providing for egress at the most rapid rate consistent with the state of the art and the evacuation flow potential of the particular opening.
- 3.1.3 The device should be of a type which would permit ambulatory persons including young children and aged persons to effect the descent rapidly and with a minimum probability of incurring injury.
- 3.1.4 The device should be installed in such a manner that in the event of unexpected emergency, it will be available for immediate use.
- 3.1.5 Operation of the device should be capable of being performed by passengers and the method should be conspicuously and clearly indicated by instruction placards. Placards and emergency lighting should be in conformity with ARP 577 and ARP 503 respectively.
- 3.1.6 The device should not normally depend upon persons on the ground for operation.
- 3.1.7 Where the device is of an inflatable type, failure of the inflation system should not render the device unuseable; in such a case, the device should provide a means whereby two (2) or more persons on the ground may provide the necessary support.
- 3.1.8 The device should be of sufficient length to provide for assisting occupants to the ground from various heights assumed by the exit under conditions of landing gear collapse. The angle of the device under such conditions should not be excessively steep. Displacement of the aircraft longitudinal axis under such conditions should not interfere with the effective functioning of the device and the safe descent of the occupants.