

Egress Marking Systems Completes Installation at Area University and Plans to Install Additional Locations on Campus

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Egress Marking Systems, Inc. (EMS) today announced that it has completed installation of its E-Lume-A-Path™ egress lighting systems in several buildings at Sacred Heart University in Trumbull.

Manufactured by EMS, the revolutionary E-Lume-A-Path™ lighting system provides an uninterrupted line of floor-level light that can be installed around corners, down hallways and stairwells and leads a path to safety in case of a fire, power outage or other catastrophe. Electroluminescent light strips installed on or near the floor are visible in a smoke-filled room at a considerable distance, maintain a low level of blue-green light and can run efficiently on battery for extended periods of time.

Current fire and safety codes dictate that exit signs should be located above exit doors. However, once a room fills with smoke, those signs are rendered useless.

"The lower level path lighting is consistent with what we've always learned about exiting a room in the case of a fire: we get on the floor and crawl out. The E-Lume-A-Path™ system can guide us to a safe egress from a room that's filled with smoke," said Robert Pescatore, Fire Marshal for the Town of Trumbull.

101 Oakview Drive, a 40,000-square-foot building that houses Sacred Heart University's administrative staff, has been equipped with the equivalent of 1,500 linear feet of 1/4-inch E-Lume-A-Path lighting strips and more than 20 marked exit signs. The project was installed in May 2003.

The system was put to the test in August 2003, when a major blackout affected the building and the northeast United States.

"The exiting of the building by our employees was conducted in an orderly fashion. No one panicked, because the pathways were lit by the E-Lume-A-Path system," said Michael Giaquinto, director of facilities management and construction at Sacred Heart University.

"We hoped that the installation was for purely precautionary purposes, but after three months, it was put to the test. It performed exactly as we expected it to," Giaquinto added.

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Installation Completed at University with More to Come

Facilities managers had already been planning installation of the system in two other buildings on the Sacred Heart campus when the blackout occurred. The first, a two-story former residence which now serves as the office of the university president, will be equipped with the equivalent of 1,200 linear feet of pathway lighting. The installation was completed this month.

A 10-story residence hall is another site at which the equivalent of 1,800 linear feet of the E-Lume-A-Path™ system will be installed. The stairwells and at stairwell entrances will be marked, and the project is expected to be completed in 2004.

Sacred Heart University currently has two or more dormitories in the development phase; both will be equipped with E-Lume-A-Path™ at the completion.

Current codes and standards, such as the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code and UL 1994 Standard for Low-level Path Marking and Lighting Systems, recognize the light strips as a means of egress marking pathways. The E-Lume-A-Path™ system includes three components: the power supply controller, FLATLITE® electroluminescent lighting and specially formulated surface mounted strips.

Egress Marking Systems, Inc. manufactures the revolutionary E-Lume-A-Path™ lighting system, which is illuminated by FLATLITE®, the world's widest, thinnest, longest light bulb. This electroluminescent lighting technology provides the most visible, flexible, efficient and durable light source in existence.

EMS combines this patented technology with specially designed power supplies and fixturing to create a system capable to hundreds of feet of light with virtually unlimited battery backup time. E-Lume-A-Path™ is intended for installation in all types of buildings, including high-rise towers, schools, clubs and theaters, hotels, commercial offices, multi-unit and dormitory residence buildings.

For additional information please contact:

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