

## Two Area Schools Install E-Lume-A-Path™ Safety System

December 15, 2003 • Trumbull, CT

Egress Marking Systems, Inc. (EMS) today announced that it has completed installation of its E-Lume-A-Path™ egress lighting systems at Madison Middle School in Trumbull and at Nathan Hale Elementary School in New Haven.

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 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.

"The installation of the E-Lume-A-Path™ lighting system in our area's schools is just the beginning of a widespread standard that we hope will be implemented throughout the state and eventually, the nation. This technology has been introduced at a time when people are highly focused on safety and emergency egress," said Carmen Romeo, managing director at EMS.

Madison Middle School was recently equipped with E-Lume-A-Path™ and utilizes it in its auditorium with approximately 325 linear feet of lighting and markings at five exits. The system was installed in September 2003 during a renovation project.

Paul Kallmeyer, director of public works for the Town of Trumbull, recommended the system installation because of its ease of use and many safety benefits.

"Quite frankly, the product speaks for itself. We were amazed by what we saw. It's not an expensive item, it's effective, and it's easy to install," Kallmeyer said. "The cost is very reasonable and far outweighs any potential damages we would incur if there was a fire or blackout and we didn't have the safety system in place."

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## Area schools install egress safety system

Additionally, Madison Middle School will test the next generation controls in its auditorium for use during theatrical performances. A flashing component and dimming capability are two new features of the new system. The flashing feature, one of the many benefits of electroluminescent lighting, helps to notify occupants of the various exits in a room. The dimming feature allows the theater aisles lighting to be used during a performance. In the case of an emergency, that light would be controlled by E-Lume-A-Path™.

Since 1998, Gilbane Building Co. has been acting as the program manager for the School Construction Program in New Haven, a \$1.1 billion bonded construction program to renovate existing or build new schools throughout New Haven. Tom Roger, program director, recognized that the current building codes might not utilize the latest technology.

“The City of New Haven is building these schools for the 21st century and felt that we could implement the E-Lume-A-Path™ lighting system to demonstrate how new technology could aid students in New Haven,” Roger said.

Several systems have been installed in the two-story Nathan Hale Elementary School, which opened in September 2003. Sections of the main hallways on the first and second floors have been equipped with the lighting system. Additionally, a handicap-accessible ramp in the library has been equipped with the lighting.

Roger added that the City of New Haven has made E-Lume-A-Path™ part of its own building standards and plans to install it in the 26 additional buildings Gilbane will erect in the city over the course of the next eight years.

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.

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For additional information please contact:

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