

Scope of Access Control

Control of access is vital if the security of buildings is not to be compromised. In buildings where there are a variety of users with different areas of responsibility and different security priorities, master keyed systems for cylinder locks have traditionally provided the simplest, and most cost effective way of managing controlled access to facilities.

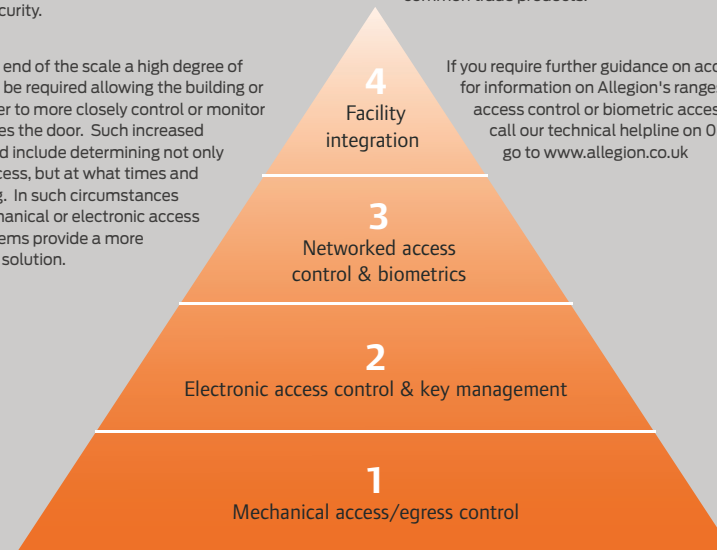
There are however, a number of alternative ways of providing controlled access depending on the level of security required, the degree of convenience, the budget available and the possible need for future expansion of the system. All these aspects need to be considered before selecting the most appropriate solution.

For many situations the use of a cylinder lock may not be the ideal solution to the security requirements of a specific door. The reasons can be many and varied. A door which is required to be kept locked whilst allowing 'keyholders' access can be inconvenient if the door is in constant use or if the number of users is very high. Similarly, a high turnover of users can become a nuisance if keys are not returned and the cylinder has to be constantly replaced to maintain security.

At the other end of the scale a high degree of control may be required allowing the building or facility owner to more closely control or monitor who accesses the door. Such increased control could include determining not only who has access, but at what times and for how long. In such circumstances electromechanical or electronic access control systems provide a more appropriate solution.

There are many levels of access control from mechanical digital locks and simple off-line battery powered electronic locks, through wireless electronic locks using proximity card technology to full on-line integrated access control systems.

Allegion is able to offer access control products at all levels, however here we have concentrated on the most common trade products.



If you require further guidance on access control, or for information on Allegion's ranges of electronic access control or biometric access control please call our technical helpline on 0800 834102 or go to www.allegion.co.uk