



## CODE INFORMATION SHEET

Based on the 2015 edition of the Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code, NFPA 101 and NFPA 1

# KEY BOX PROGRAM

Local Fire Departments during an emergency require immediate entry into the building. A (key box) located on the outside of the building allows emergency response personnel to enter the building without damaging the property. In a life threatening situation search and rescue operations may be impeded by locked or secured doors. Local fire departments can assist you in purchasing a key box for your building.

Using this system, the Key-Box device is purchased by the property owner and mounted near a building entrance or property gate according to guidelines. Key boxes, vaults and cabinets hold building entrance keys, electronic access cards, floor plans, hazardous materials data and other vital emergency information. Some of the advantages of the Key-Box system include:

- Provides immediate emergency entry
- Prevents costly forced entry damage
- Re-secures undamaged doors after emergency
- Allows faster fire sprinkler shut-off
- Protects inventory, equipment and supplies
- Protects firefighters against injury
- Increases fire department efficiency



### Requirements of the Vermont Fire and Building Safety Code

#### Access to Structures or Areas. NFPA 1 – Section 18.2.2

18.2.2.1 Access Box(es). The AHJ shall have the authority to require an access box(es) to be installed in an accessible location where access to or within a structure or area is difficult because of security.

18.2.2.2 Access to Gated Subdivisions or Developments. The AHJ shall have the authority to require fire department access be provided to gated subdivisions or developments through the use of an approved device or system.

18.2.2.3 Access Maintenance. The owner or occupant of a structure or area, with required fire department access as specified in 18.2.2.1 or 18.2.2.2, shall notify the AHJ when the access is modified in a manner that could prevent fire department access.