



## KEY BOX PROGRAM

A Key-Box Program provides a secure, tamper-proof “key box” located on the exterior of buildings. The box can only be operated using a master key, which is only in the possession of the jurisdictional fire department. Fire departments rely on the Key Box System to enter property quickly and safely during emergency response.

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 2005 Vermont Fire & Building Safety Code

#### NFPA 1 – Section 10.12 Access to Structures or Areas.

10.12.1 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.

10.12.2 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.

10.12.3 Access Maintenance. The owner or occupant of a structure or area, with required fire department access as specified in 10.12.1 or 10.12.2, shall notify the AHJ when the access is modified in a manner that could prevent fire department access.

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