



Safe-T-Punch™

CASE STUDY 2

Safe-T-Punch™ and Emergency Exit Reform in South Africa

Independent Testing and Operational Fleet Deployment

Background

Multiple fatal submerged-bus incidents in South Africa exposed the failure of “kick-out” emergency windows under water pressure. At the time, regulations did not define a reliable method for breaking emergency window glass.

Safe-T-Punch™ was developed to provide a device-based, certainty-driven solution to emergency egress failures.

Independent Testing

Safe-T-Punch™ was independently tested by the South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) in 2007.

The SABS test report concluded that the device:

- Successfully penetrated and shattered SANS 1193 toughened safety glass
- Required force levels within the capability of a 12–13-year-old child

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- Met the intent of SANS 20107 / UNECE R107 Annex 3 Clause 7.6.8.2.2 requirement

Fleet Deployment

Following testing, Safe-T-Punch™ was deployed in operational bus fleets, including Johannesburg Metro Bus and Golden Arrow Bus Services, with more than 12,000 devices installed.

Independent assessment by the CSIR concluded that Safe-T-Punch™ “has the potential to save many lives in an accident situation.”

Outcome

- Independent national standards testing (SABS)
- Large-scale fleet retrofit
- Demonstrated effectiveness in real-world operations
- Contribution to regulatory transition toward device-based emergency exits