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The LHC Access System: why do we put doors ?

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The latest discussions on the LHC Access Safety system, held during the first sessions of the Access Safety Working Group, have emphasized the goal of the system to prevent personal exposure to radiological hazards. The personnel protection against electrical hazards is outside the scope of the project. From the control room point of view, the LHC Access Safety System will authorize, when all the safety conditions are met, either the beam operation, or, the access operation using the LHC Access Control system. A test mode is foreseen for the RF zone to protect the personnel against the X rays generated by the cavities during the cavities testing. The LHC Access Control System has however several operational modes and functionalities, which can be used with the appropriate procedures to perform other equipment tests.

The LHC Access Control system will be installed following to the LHC installation planning and could be operated point by point, however as the LHC Access Safety system concerns the whole accelerator no partial operation is possible, at the exception of the interlocks required by the RF zone.

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