Claims

~~1. A handle assembly for a door comprising:~~

~~a first housing mountable to a surface of the door; and~~

~~a handle configured to be received at least partially within the first housing and adapted to move between an unlocked position in which the handle protrudes from the housing and a locked position in which the handle is substantially within the housing;~~

~~wherein opening of the door when the handle is in the locked position is prevented by a lock;~~

~~and wherein the first housing is designed to be either:~~

- ~~supplemented with an electronic actuating means; or~~
- ~~replaceable by a second housing associated with an electronic actuating means,~~

~~without requiring removal of the handle from the door.~~

1~~2~~. In a handle assembly for a door comprising:

a first housing mountable to a surface of the door; and

a handle configured to be received at least partially within the first housing and adapted to move between an unlocked position in which the handle protrudes from the housing and a locked position in which the handle is substantially within the housing;

wherein opening of the door when the handle is in the locked position is prevented by a lock;

the provision of a second housing to replace the first housing without requiring removal of the handle from the door, the second housing being associated with electronic actuating means.

~~3. The assembly of claim 1 or 2, wherein the handle is a swing handle.~~

~~4. The assembly of claim 3 wherein the or each housing is shaped to encircle the handle when the handle is in the locked position.~~

~~5. The assembly of any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the electronic actuating means includes a shape memory alloy material.~~

~~6. The assembly of claim 5, wherein the electronic actuating means includes a shuttle movable by actuation of the shape memory alloy material.~~

2~~7~~. The assembly of ~~any one of~~ claim~~s~~ 1~~ to 6~~, wherein the second housing includes an indicator to provide a visual indication as to the locked or unlocked position of the handle.

3~~8~~. The assembly of claim 2~~8~~, wherein the indicator is a coloured light.

4~~9~~. The assembly of any one of claims 1 to 3~~8~~, wherein the electronic actuating means is contained within the second housing.

~~10. the assembly of any one of claims 1 to 9, wherein the door is for a server rack cabinet.~~

5~~11~~. A method of upgrading a mechanically-locked handle assembly to an electronically-locked handle assembly, the mechanically-locked handle assembly having a first housing mounted to a surface of the door and a handle configured to be received at least partially within the first housing and adapted to move between an unlocked position in which the handle protrudes from the housing and a locked position in which the handle is substantially within the housing, opening of the door when the handle is in the locked position being prevented by a mechanical lock;

wherein the method includes the steps of:

- removing the first housing without removing the handle from the door; and either:

- supplementing the first housing with an electronic actuating means; or
- replacing the first housing with a second housing associated with electronic actuating means.

6~~12~~. The method of claim 5~~11~~ wherein the handle is a swing handle.

7~~13~~. The method of claim 6~~12~~ wherein the or each housing is shaped to encircle the handle when the handle is in the locked position.

8~~14~~. The method of any one of claims 5~~11~~ to 7~~13~~, wherein the electronic actuating means includes a shape memory alloy material.

9~~15~~. The method of claim 8~~14~~, wherein the electronic actuating means includes a shuttle movable by actuation of the shape memory alloy material.

10~~16~~. The method of any one of claims 5~~11~~ to 9~~15~~, wherein the second housing includes an indicator to provide a visual indication as to the locked or unlocked position of the handle.

11~~17~~. The method of claim 10~~16~~, wherein the indicator is a coloured light.

12~~18~~. The method any one of claims 5~~11~~ to 11~~17~~, wherein the electronic actuating means is contained within the second housing.

13~~19~~. The method of any one of claims 5~~11~~ to 12~~18~~, wherein the door is for a server rack.