

Mandatory compliance for all Builders, designers, installers and manufacturers in Australian Garage Door industry

The Australian Garage Door Association (AGDA) wants to dispel the common misconception in the industry as to who is responsible for garage door compliance to ANZ standards, to ensure greater consumer protection around the safe construction, installation and operation of garage doors.

The President of AGDA, Mr Mike Fraser, is lobbying the government to enforce full mandatory compliance to Australian and New Zealand (ANZ) standards to achieve this.

“The responsibility does not fall on one party, it is in fact the responsibility of the installers, builders and designers of buildings to ensure compliance in relation to garage doors, not just manufacturers,” said Mr Fraser.

The relevant Standard for Doors (as noted in the National Construction Code / Building Code of Australia for cyclonic wind areas) is cited as AS/NZS 4505:2012 “Garage doors and other large access doors”, and includes information that installers, builders and building designers need to have an understanding of, such as information regarding the loads that the doors apply to the buildings, as well minimum performance requirements for structural loads applied to the substrate to which the door is affixed.

Mr Fraser recommends all parties in the industry become familiar with these codes to ensure compliance to ANZ standards and avoid penalties.

In addition to lobbying the government for non-compliance, the AGDA has recently called for additional safety mechanisms in automated garage doors to be made mandatory. The AGDA wants the Government to enforce secondary entrapment protection for automatically operated garage doors under ANZ regulations.

Currently the existing Standard for openers is cited as AS/NZS 60335-2-95:2012 “Household and similar electrical appliances – Safety – Part 2-95: Particular requirements for drives for vertically moving garage doors for residential use”.

This standard mandates that residential garage door openers are designed with any one of three alternative safety entrapment protection systems. The most common option is the contact-based force reversal system that is built into the residential door opener; the less common but critical option for optimum consumer safety consideration, is a non-contact system consisting of additional devices not directly built into the opener, or the third option which is including light barriers (IR-beams), pressure pads in the floor area under the door, or door edge contact sensors.

According to the AGDA there is an immediate need for greater consumer protection on this issue and this Association wants the Australian and New Zealand Standard to be upgraded to include mandatory primary and now secondary entrapment protection for garage doors.

Mike Fraser, President
Australian Garage Door Association