



NEWSLETTER SPRING 2016

FOR THE INDUSTRY



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Mother-of-one, 40, Was Crushed To Death By Automatic Garage Door In Car Park

Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom, Coroners' officer Paul Garnell said: 'A 40-year-old woman was with her friend at the Ruth Bagnall Court (a 72 Apartment Complex) and they were in the underground car park because her friend resided at this location. They were going out of the exit via the car park.

She had pressed the button to operate it and in the process of the shutter going up in an act of silliness she reached up and held on to the shutter.

'She was meant to drop down but her arms got caught and the shutter has pulled her up into the mechanism where it caused death'

The friend who was with her frantically tried to pull her free with the help of passers-by but she died 'immediately'.



Dramatic headline: Yes
Dramatic circumstances: Yes
Commercial Door: Yes,
Dramatic message for checking and action for entrapment protection, life safety and a clear lesson for doors in residential as well as commercial markets: Yes

UK's Door and Hardware Federation says the tragic death of the woman who died after getting caught in the automatic car park door underlines the need for all those responsible for automated doors to ensure they are safe.



Building owners, landlords and all those responsible for properties with any kind of automated door or gate have a legal obligation to ensure installation compliance with the regulations. They have the further responsibility for the safe operation of those doors and gates and have in place regular planned preventative maintenance. Engineers

and maintenance operatives called out to carry out work on doors and gates also have a legal obligation to not put unsafe doors and gates back into service until they are made safe.

DHF contends one third of all powered roller shutter garage doors in the UK are unsafe and not fit for purpose. Is it any better in Australia?

AGDA recommends checking the operation of doors at least every three to six months (more regularly in extreme environments or frequent use).



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Potential Electrocution Following Electrical Break-In Incident in NZ



During the installation process for a garage door, a Tek Screw being used to attach door components, struck a live electrical cable causing sparks and shorting out the power to the electrical supply to the house causing a burn mark on the wall.

The lucky Installer was sent for an ECG and given the all clear.

A licenced electrician was sent to site to make safe and repair the damaged wiring which was part of an unusual set up of electrical wiring at the house not having been identified by Measure Rep or Installer.

No equipment for finding studs and live electrical cables was provided to employee installers .

The induction and training processes had not adequately highlighted the level of risk of electrical break in type work.

This story provides a timely wake-up call in all installation situations for provision of adequate risk assessment and equipment to ensure employees or contractors are not exposed to life threatening circumstances during an installation.

This report summary was derived from a Safety Alert provided by B&D and further detail, if required, can be obtained by contacting AGDA.

Compliance of Building Products

What is Non-Conforming and Non-Complying?

Non-Conforming:

'Products and Materials that claim to be something they are not; do not meet required standards for their intended use; or are marketed or supplied with the intent to deceive those who use them.'

Non-complying:

'Used in situations where they do not comply with the requirements of the National Construction Code.'

Distinction

A building product that is labelled or described as being non-combustible but which is, in fact, combustible is a non-conforming product.

A building product that is combustible and described as such, but is used in a situation where a non-combustible product is prescribed under NCC, is non-compliant.

General purpose plasterboard used instead of fire rated plasterboard in a firewall.

Product is OK for normal use, but would be non-compliant when used in a firewall.

General purpose plasterboard painted pink and sold as 'fire rated'. Product is non-conforming (and if used in a firewall, would also be non-compliant).

Cases

Infinity & Olsent Cables - Polymer casing degrades prematurely – exposing wiring with the potential for electric shock

- ◆ Potentially 22,000 buildings affected
- ◆ Remediation costs \$80 million

Lacrosse fire Melbourne

- ◆ 312 apartment owners ordered to rip off & replace within 12 months at a cost of \$40 million



Senate Inquiry Likely Recommendations

- A systemic approach – from entering the supply chain, through to installation.
- More responsibility for suppliers to demonstrate compliance.
- Increased powers to regulators to conduct audits on existing buildings.
- On-line database/national register for NCPs.
- Review CodeMark and Australian Standards that relate to 'high-risk' products.
- ABC to review cladding for high-rise buildings.

http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Economics/Non-conforming_products

Construction in Bushfire Prone Areas

Update on recent work by the Standards Australia FP-020 Committee responsible for the AS3959 Construction in bushfire prone areas Standard is reported as follows by the committee

- Removal of Reference to 'Nylon' has been accepted
- Currently favours the wording: *All vehicle access doors (refer to AS/NZS 4505:2012 for door types) shall be protected with suitable weather strips, draught excluders, draught seals or brushes.*

COMMENT– AGDA SUBMITTED GAPS > 3MM NEED PROTECTION WHICH WE CAN STILL GO FOR. ANY THOUGHTS FROM MEMBERS?

- Has accepted the wording: *Door assemblies which do not provide at door edge gap a direct passage for embers to the interior of the building do not need edge gap protection. Vehicle access doors which include ventilation slots shall have such slots protected by screening in accordance with Clause 3.6 (except BAL 40 & FZ)*
- The question of non metal wheels and other componentry needed clarification and for BAL 29 and above the committee has accepted the wording: *Components other than metal may be used provided they are shielded by the metal components of the door assembly.*
- Has accepted wording: for Seals: *Shall be manufactured from materials having a flammability index no greater than 5*

COMMENT– THIS IS FOR BAL 40 AND FZ. SOME MEMBERS BELIEVE IT SHOULD EXTEND TO LOWER BALS. ANY THOUGHTS FROM MEMBERS?