

ADSA Guidance and Safety Legislation for Automatic Doors

The following pieces of legislation are relevant when considering legal responsibilities with regard to proper maintenance of commercial doors. These regulations are binding on the employer, or occupier of a building or premises, who have a duty to safeguard the health and safety of employees and other persons on or about the premises.

Health & Safety Executive (HSE) Define:

- All doors as part of the workplace
- Powered doors as 'Work Equipment' and 'Machinery'
- Fire doors as 'Fire Fighting Equipment'
- Person or persons can be convicted if found to contravene the legislations

Regulation 5 of the Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992

Extract: "... *the equipment devices and systems to which this regulation applies shall be subject to a suitable system of maintenance.*"

This applies to all types of door whether manual or electric operation.

Regulation 5 of the Provision & Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)

Extract A: "*Every employer should ensure that work equipment is maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair.*"

Extract B: "*Every employer should ensure that where any machinery has a maintenance log, the log is kept up to date.*"

The most important aspect of safety in use for powered pedestrian doors is that they are classified as machines under the Machinery Directive. The Machinery Directive is mandatory and compliance must be proven for both safety in use and maintenance. The risk of non-compliance is severe fines and or imprisonment especially where negligence is proven.

In the UK and up until EN16005, in April 2013 was introduced, the only way of proving compliance was by following BS7036:1996. Although a British Standard is not mandatory, in the event of an accident involving a machine (in this case a powered pedestrian door) the HSE will be the primary body investigating the accident. HSE will draw down on any relevant documentation that provides guidance on how to show compliance in terms of safety in use. This would be BS7036 for installations prior to April 2013 and EN16005 post April 2013.

Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005

(This extract applies to any door provided as a fire exit, along with an escape route or which provides fire compartmentation.)

Extract: *"Where necessary, in order to safeguard the safety of relevant persons the responsible person must ensure that the premises and any facilities, equipment and devices provided are subject to a suitable system of maintenance and are maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair."*