

Risk Assessment

Door Safety-Proofing

Method Statement



Specialist Area:

Door Safety - Finger entrapment risk areas.

Risk Area Definitions:

Closing Door Hinge Cavity (HC)

Crushing and cutting guillotine pinching point created when the corner of the closing door passes into the counterpart door frame on the closing hinge cavity side of the hinged door.

Closing Door Hinge Pin Cavity (HP)

Crushing action created between the door and counterpart door frame on the hinge pin (knuckle) side of the hinged door.

Closing Door Handle Side Cavity (HS)

Crushing action created between the door and counterpart door frame on the handle side of the hinged door.

Closing Door Sliding Panel Handle Side Cavity (SP)

Crushing action created between the door and counterpart door frame on the handle side of the sliding door.

Fit-for-Purpose observations:

Door safety shield effectiveness
Door safety integrity
Door safety usage practices

Level of risk

To discriminate between high and medium risk is a challenge not worth risking when either is likely to cause an accident. It is therefore, reasonable to safety-proof both High and Medium risk areas. Experience has shown us that anything less has proven to lead to avoidable accidents and liability. This approach is based upon pioneering expert door safety-proofing experience in areas frequented by children and the elderly. Self Harming Units in Hospitals and others of similarly high risk users dictate extending this effective safety-proofing to all (including low) risk areas.

- 1) High
- 2) Medium
- 3) Low

Door shielding considerations:

Doors risks are eliminated in High and Medium risk areas based upon risk. The use of our uniquely versatile, patented and Design Council endorsed safety proofing systems. These systems allow the risks to be dealt with comprehensively, thereby, allowing safe passage throughout the premises without compromise.

Fit for Purpose considerations

It can be seen that there are shields which (without vandalism) can be mechanically imploded (collapsed) into the danger area of a closing door. We feel this to be an unacceptable liability that creates a false sense of security. Whilst these design deficient options reduce risk to some degree they continue to allow, if not invite fingers to be injured.

Such devices are too common and often compound matters by using door perforating fixings that may compromise Fire Door integrity. Such products are logically considered by industry experts to be no guarantee of suitability for use in the UK.

Please be assured that such devices do not meet the design standards required of market leading clients and will not be supplied or installed by Safety Assured Limited.

Installation of safety-proofing

Pre risk assessment/Safety-Proofing pre-Authorisation and completion form (along with a copy of Safety Assured's Terms and Conditions) has to be signed by the client before and after Survey and/or Safety Proofing.

All Safety Assured Technicians are CRB checked. All technicians are trained to the highest standard on a continual basis. They are qualified by Safety Assured Accident Prevention to assess and install effective accident prevention equipment.

Following risk assessment, doors requiring safety systems are fitted with necessary devices without disruption to the building user's daily routines.

No harmful materials, tools or methods are used or accessible by those using the building at any stage.

Safety-proofing a site is normally achieved without disruption in less than a day.

Risk assessment is based upon specialist training, experience, relevant legislation and common sense. When Safety Assured safety factors are met a "Door Safety Standard certificate" is issued to the site. This standard should be reviewed and recertified by Safety Assured preferably on an annual basis or whenever if any alterations or change of usage made to any part of the premises.

Following initial door safety risk assessment the Safety Assured technician simply approaches relevant doors then wipes the hinge area to be safety-proofed with an Isopropyl (alcohol). He/she then removes the self adhesive liner film from the Finger Protector® door safety system shield and retaining channel then applies the two part system to the closed door and frame. He/she then opens the door and clips the two sections together with a simple blunt table knife. Occasionally shields need to be shortened with scissor or anvil cutting shears. These are worn on a belt. No tools or dangerous items are left unattended at any time, or left on site.

No power tools are used. All relevant waste material is removed.