

LETTERS — TO THE — EDITOR

“a good read, but I’m upset ...”

I just finished reading the “Ohio Attorney General sues garage door company” story in the fall issue, and I wanted to say,

“Well done!” It was a good read, but I’m upset that there are still crooks operating this way in the door industry. I thought things were improving, but it looks like I was wrong.

Tom Wadsworth was always excellent about quickly exposing door companies when they wandered over to the dark

side. These stories are important and need to be published. Thank you for continuing to report them!

Roy Bardowell
Door Operator Guru
Chandler, Arizona

Cutting-edge reporting and top-notch design

Your fall 2022 issue was your best issue yet: great topics, excellent reporting, and beautiful layout.

No one could match your coverage of the C.H.I. buyout, the fluctuating steel market, BBB complaints, and the garage door company sued by the Ohio Attorney General. Every door dealer should sit up and take notice of your up-to-date, cutting-edge reporting.

Plus, the design of every page is top-notch, and the paper itself is heavier and classier than anything in the industry. Every advertiser should be pleased to have their ads featured in such a high-quality magazine.

Keep up the great work!

Tom Wadsworth
Former D+AS Editor
Dixon, Illinois

Editor’s note:

In this installment of the Tech Corner, DASMA Technical Director Dave Monsour provides answers to your questions regarding the new labeling requirements for garage doors.

How the 2021 International Residential Code and wind load labels affect you

Seven states — Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Montana, New Jersey, and South Carolina — along with various counties and cities in other states, have adopted the 2021 International Residential Code (IRC). Many other states will soon follow suit.

Q. What does this mean for garage doors?

A. There is a new labeling requirement for garage doors.

Q. What is the requirement?

A. From chapter 6 of the code:

R609.4 Garage doors. Garage doors shall be tested in accordance with either ASTM E330 or ANSI/DASMA 108 and shall meet the pass/fail criteria of ANSI/DASMA 108.

R609.4.1 Garage door labeling. Garage doors shall be labeled with a permanent label provided by the garage door manufacturer. The label shall identify the garage door manufacturer, the garage door model/series number, the positive and negative design wind pressure rating, the installation instruction drawing reference number, and the applicable test standard.



TECH CORNER

DAVE MONSOUR

Q. Is this new?

A. The testing requirement is not new. In fact, since the 2000 I-codes at least, the basic wind speed requirement has not been less than 85 mph in any region of the U.S., and garage doors have been expected to withstand those winds. The testing requirement for garage doors has been explicit since the 2006 IRC. However, the labeling paragraph is new.

Q. Are garage door manufacturers ready to meet this requirement?

A. Absolutely. Every major manufacturer offers wind-load-rated products complete with labels.

Q. Is third-party labeling or certification required?

A. No; the code requirement is quoted in full above.

Q. Does the label have to be applied at the factory?

A. No; this is not mentioned in the code text above.

Q. So what design pressures are required?

A. All kinds! Looking at just two of the states mentioned, the design wind speeds range from the mid-90s mph in California to 150 mph for coastal Carolina. The resulting design pressures range from 10 psf to over 40 psf.

Q. How do manufacturers know which design pressure rating to provide?

A. As always, manufacturers need to rely on their dealers and distributors to convey job-specific requirements. The basic wind speed is, of course, only one factor.

Other factors include Exposure Category, mean roof height, wind zone location, typography, and effective wind area. Effective wind area, since it is a direct function of door size, is known by the manufacturer whenever a door is ordered, but the other factors often are not known. Another important factor, also often unknown by the manufacturer, is whether wind-borne debris resistance is required.

In summary, the manufacturer rarely knows the required design pressure rating unless that information is provided during the quoting or ordering process. Refer to DASMA Technical Data Sheet #194 for more information. <https://www.dasma.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/TDS194.pdf>

Q. What is the minimum design pressure rating manufacturers need to supply?

A. The minimum design pressure rating is job specific. It will depend on the factors discussed.