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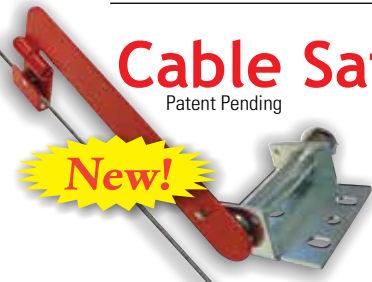
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DAVE MONSOUR

Jackshaft operators on standard lift doors

Two DASMA divisions – the Commercial & Residential Garage Door Division and the Door Operator & Electronics Division – recently collaborated to create a new Technical Data Sheet: TDS 1501, Standard Lift Garage Doors with Jackshaft Operation. The importance of this TDS is underscored by a recent phone call to the DASMA office. The conversation is paraphrased below.

Q. A door dealer in my area, a competitor of mine, is installing jackshaft operators on standard lift doors. Is that permissible?

A. Installation of jackshaft operators on standard lift doors should only be done under the careful guidance of the door and operator manufacturers.

Q. Why is careful guidance needed?

A. For many jackshaft operators, installation onto a standard lift door involves special considerations. Accordingly, manufacturers make recommendations that may not be needed for more typical applications, such as a drawbar operator on a standard lift door, or a jackshaft operator on a high lift door.

Q. What special considerations are involved?

A. Everything related to making sure the cables stay securely on the drums.

Q. How do manufacturers resolve these issues?

A. Typical approaches are outlined in TDS 1501 as well as in the article on page 44.

Q. My company has been called out to jobsites to correct the problems caused by the other dealer's installations with jackshaft operators on standard lift doors. The end users complain that the dealer did shoddy installations and then profited from the repair work.

A. Even if an installation is completed with the utmost care, it can still be improper if it involves an improper combination of parts, such as a jackshaft operator on a standard lift door apart from the manufacturer's guidance.

Improper installations, no less than shoddy ones, can certainly lead to repair work and can also be dangerous! Please refer to TDS 1501 and to ANSI/DASMA 102, Section 8.2.1, which states that "Motorized jackshaft operators shall not be used on standard lift and low headroom applications unless provisions are made to maintain adequate cable tension as specified by the door system manufacturer."

Q. The dealer in question acquires parts from a variety of manufacturers and assembles them into a finished product.

A. The compatibility of parts from different sources needs to be verified based on detailed knowledge of component design and specifications as well as assembly testing. Customers should look for doors from a manufacturer designed and built to ANSI/DASMA 102:

<https://www.dasma.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/ANSIDASMA102.pdf>