

## Residential home spending continues to decline

National spending for home renovations and repairs are expected to decline at an accelerating rate through the first half of 2024, according to the Leading Indicator of Remodeling Activity (LIRA) released on July 20, 2023, by the Remodeling Futures Program at the Joint Center for Housing Studies of Harvard University.

The LIRA projects that year-over-year spending on homeowner improvements and maintenance will shrink by 5.9% by the end of the second quarter.

High interest rates, softening house price appreciation, and sluggish home sales are hindering home remodeling activity. Abbe Will, associate project director of the program, said, "Annual spending on homeowner improvements and repairs is expected to decrease from \$486 billion through the second quarter of this year to \$457 billion over the coming four quarters." ■

### Leading Indicator of Remodeling Activity – Second Quarter 2023



**Fall IDA  
EduCon & Tradeshow**  
October 19, 2023  
Milwaukee, WI

## Register now for the 2023 IDA EduCon and Trade Show

From Oct. 19 to 21, 2023, IDA will be hosting its Fall IDA EduCon & Trade show event in Milwaukee. The event gives IDA members and industry representatives from across the country a venue to engage and connect. Attendees can earn IDEA-approved CEU credits, network with colleagues, and learn about the latest industry products.

The show will kick off with a welcome reception on Oct. 19 and will feature education and training opportunities for door dealers, suppliers, and technicians. ■

## Industry requests withdrawal of CSA 22.2 NO. 247 Canadian standard

For many years, the CSA C22.2 No. 247 Standard — Operators and systems of doors, gates, draperies, and louvers, was used to certify door and gate operators in Canada. Over time, the standard was not maintained sufficiently, and eventually, it failed to address developments in technology and best practices that arose in the industry.

DASMA and allied organizations promoted a binational ANSI/CAN/UL 325 Standard as a superior replacement for the CSA C22.2 No. 247 Standard. The Standards Council of Canada agreed with the industry's requests and adopted the 325 Standard as a national Standard of Canada.

The CSA Group's certification arm has confirmed the use of the ANSI/CAN 325 Standard exclusively for the certification of new door and gate operator products effective March 2023. While the CSA 22.2 No. 247 Standard is no longer used in the industry, the Standard itself (though outdated) still exists.

DASMA has requested that the CSA Group standards arm begin the process of withdrawing the Standard to avoid unnecessary confusion in the industry. Look for future updates regarding the Standard over the coming months. ■



**FENCETECH/  
METALFAB 2024**

**MUSIC CITY CENTER  
NASHVILLE, TN  
JANUARY 24-26, 2024**



## Fencetech/METALfab 2024 registration goes live

The American Fence Association (AFA) Fencetech and METALfab 2024 annual convention and trade show is scheduled for Jan. 23-26 at the Music City Center in Nashville, Tenn., home of the Grand Ole Opry, Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, and the historic Ryman Auditorium.

AFA conducted a "Call for Presentations" to help determine the education sessions for the week. The final education and training schedule, registration details, and host hotel information are to be announced in September. Visit [www.americanfenceassociation.com/fencetech/2024](http://www.americanfenceassociation.com/fencetech/2024) for more information. ■

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## Assa Abloy worker seeks Federal Court Order against IBEW Union

In June, Anaheim-based Assa Abloy employee Jamie Zambrano filed charges against the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 441 union and his employer, alleging that union officials unlawfully instigated his firing because he abstained from union membership.

California's lack of Right to Work protections grants union officials the power to get workers fired for refusing to pay dues or fees to the union. However, the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) forbids union officials from conditioning employment on formal union membership, even in non-Right to Work states.

According to Zambrano, he began paying union dues in September 2022. In the spring of 2023, union officials sent him a union membership form without a clear timeline of when the paperwork should be completed. Zambrano alleges that, despite his paying the required amount of union dues to stay employed, Assa Abloy officials terminated him because they had not received his membership form.

National Right to Work Foundation President Mark Mix said, "But even if IBEW officials were acting fully within the bounds of California and federal labor law, Mr. Zambrano would still be forced to pay dues to the union just to keep his job because of California's lack of a Right to Work law."

Zambrano's charge also seeks his immediate reinstatement. ■

*The National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation is a nonprofit charitable organization providing free legal aid to employees whose human or civil rights have been violated by compulsory unionism abuses. For more information, visit [www.nrtw.org](http://www.nrtw.org).*



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## High Performance Doors releases new brochure

In August, the DASMA High Performance Door Division released a new "High Performance Doors in Action" brochure. The new DASMA publication includes a comprehensive look at the variety of products and applications that fall under the "high-performance" umbrella and sets a new standard for promotion and visual education of the product categories manufactured by DASMA members. The brochure can be found under the "Publications" menu at

<https://www.dasma.com/brochures-and-materials>. ■

## New Air Leakage Testing Standard released

In July, the DASMA Commercial & Residential Garage Door, Rolling Door, and High Performance Door divisions approved and released DASMA 112 Test Method for Air Leakage of Sectional Garage Doors, Rolling Doors, and Flexible Doors. The new standard will supplement ANSI/DASMA 105 Test Method for Thermal Transmittance and Air Infiltration of Garage Doors and Rolling Doors, which has simultaneously been revised to remove the air infiltration aspect.

The important development of the two standards recognizes the separate significance of the two tests, their various setups and applicability, and the growing divergence in methods. The two new standards will both undergo ANSI canvass and are intended for adoption into the model building codes. ■



## Rolling Door Division establishes committee structure

In April, the DASMA Rolling Door Division adopted a new committee structure in order to more efficiently address the various types of agenda items that arise. As of June, Division members, as well as interested parties, have fully staffed four new standing committees: Codes & Standards, Research, Training & Education, and Membership. The first new committee meetings were held in September at the Fall Technical Forum in Denver, Co. ■



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