

ARCHITECT ACADEMY

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Effective August 29, 2010, Underwriters Laboratories now requires all commercial door operators installed on or after this date to be fully compliant with UL 325 2010, the standard to which commercial door operators must comply with in order to achieve Underwriters Laboratories approval and bear the UL 325 mark.

What exactly does this mean?

- All commercial door operators bearing the UL label must continuously monitor safety devices such as photo-sensors and sensing edges – this is a mandatory requirement for operations other than constant-pressure-to-close (have to hold the close button until the door is all the way down)
- A manufacturer's inability to comply will result in the operator being limited to a basic constant-pressure-to-close operation. No other wiring types or special features such as timer-to-close or remote controls will be permissible without compliance
- Monitored photo-sensor or sensing edge safety devices are mandatory, and both must be designed to provide continuous status updates to the operator, which must be designed to receive and monitor these updates. Auxiliary non-monitored safety devices, such as a pneumatic sensing edge, are permissible but only in conjunction with the monitored safety devices
- Monitored photo-sensors and sensing edges must be tested in conjunction with the operator by Underwriter Laboratories

What does all of this mean to you as an Architect or Spec Writer?

- In order for the commercial door operator to be momentary-contact-to-close (hit the close button and walk away), you will need to specify either a fail-safe photo eye or a fail-safe electric edge
- If you specify any other safety device for the motor operator, the door will have to be constant-pressure-to-close

Contact us today at architectadvantage@mckeedoor.com or 614.833.1416 to ensure all of your motor operator requirements are compliant with UL 325.