



Simple Answers to Common Questions about UL325-2010

What is UL325? It is the Underwriters Laboratories Standard that regulates the manufacturing of commercial door operators.

What's different about UL325-2010? The new Standard requires that commercial door operators be installed as either constant pressure close or with a compatible sensing device that can be monitored for proper function by the door operator. If the monitored sensing device is not present or has a fault condition that prevents sensing of an obstruction, the operator must either cause a closing door to open, or automatically default to constant pressure close.

When does the new Standard become effective? All UL Listed commercial door operators manufactured after August 29, 2010 must comply with the new requirements. However, existing inventories of operators are allowed to be sold and installed after that date until stock is depleted.

Can non-monitored sensing devices still be used? As long as there is at least one sensing device that is monitored, additional, non-monitored sensing devices can also be used. As an example, when a primary monitored sensing edge is used, secondary non-monitored photo-eyes, loop detectors, etc. may also be used.

Does the monitored sensing device have to be a sensing edge? No, monitored non-contact sensors such as photo-eyes can be used instead of a sensing edge. When photo-eyes are used, UL requires that they be installed 6 inches above the floor. Depending on the application, photo-eyes at the mandatory 6 inch height may not be adequate to detect all potential obstructions, and additional or different types of sensing devices may also be necessary.

Can any monitored sensing device be used? No, only monitored sensing devices that have been tested and Listed for use with a specific brand of operator can be used. In some cases, a unique electronic "signature" may be required for compatibility of a sensing device with an operator. Consult with the operator manufacturer for a list of approved devices.

How will UL325-2010 affect fire door motor operators? Constant pressure close or a monitored sensing device is also required on fire door operators, but automatic closing functions will not be affected. UL325 recognizes that automatic closing functions take precedence over normal operating functions of fire door operators, so monitoring will be overridden during any alarm activated closing.

What about operators that are already installed? There is no retroactivity period for UL325-2010. Any commercial door operators that are currently installed in the field can remain as long as they are installed and function correctly. That is, they are installed with at least one properly functioning sensing device, or they are wired for constant pressure close. They can also be repaired or otherwise serviced as necessary and do not need to be replaced as long as they can be made to operate properly. However, upgrading to a UL325-2010 compliant operator with monitored sensing device(s) should be considered as an opportunity for the seller and an improvement for the buyer.

What is Lawrence Doors doing? Lawrence commercial door operators have been tested and approved for compliance with UL325-2010. New compliant operators will be available as our inventory of current operators is depleted.

- All Lawrence commercial door operators will be a hybrid design, combining a proven electro-mechanical system with a simple solid-state control board offering new standard features.
- A 2-wire monitored sensing edge with integral end-of-line resistor will be our standard offering, but optical and reflective photo-eyes and other types of monitored and non-monitored sensing devices will also be available.
- If a fault condition is detected in the monitored sensing system, Lawrence operators will automatically revert to constant pressure close to allow temporary operability until the condition is corrected.
- We will offer an optional multiple-device wiring harness that will allow multiple monitored devices to be used simultaneously. If any one of the monitored devices stops functioning or becomes disconnected, the door will revert to constant pressure close operation. This will provide for a higher standard of safety by monitoring redundant sensing devices at all times.

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