



Explosives Branch
Directive Letter # 57
June 2006

Permission to Construct Larger Magazine Doors

From time to time, the Explosives Regulatory Division (ERD) and/or the door fabricators are asked to allow a single magazine door design that is larger than the nominal 60" (1524.0 mm) W X 78" (1981.2 mm) H door opening set out in the approved door drawing set, specifically Explosive Magazine Door Frame Assembly, drawing number EXP 9802. Such requests are made to accommodate much wider loads using forklift truck traffic and pallets, or shaft sinking pressure vessels, to name a few, which the original design was not intended to cover.

The door size is limited due to the substantial weight and its ability to transfer this safely to other structural members such as the tubular frame construction in a Type 4 steel magazine or to the supporting building structure of a Type 1 concrete or block wall magazine.⁽¹⁾

In future, any such requests for larger doors will have to be reviewed and approved by a professional engineer, confirming it has met all the requirements of the 2005 National Building Code of Canada with particular emphasis on Parts 5.1 and 5.2. Although the actual larger door size may remain the same, the structure that it is to be installed in will, in most cases, be unique for each installation, thus requiring a separate review and approval (stamped) by a professional engineer.

ERD will require acknowledgement, in writing, that this has taken place prior to proceeding with the installation at each specific location. ERD will acknowledge only and file such correspondence for future reference. Failure to forward such information may result in a magazine licence not being issued. It will be the applicant's responsibility to ensure the installation was installed according to the approving engineer's instructions.

Note: In this case, the applicant could be either the fabricator or the client for whom the upgraded door is being installed in their magazine.

On a separate but related topic, all magazines, of which the upgraded enhanced secured door forms a part, are issued a unique numbered "tag." The tag is installed on the upgraded magazine door and the unique number is further entered into the ERD licensing system. For these larger doors, it is important to note that issuance of the "tag" and subsequent inspections by ERD inspectorate do not indicate approval of the door design or modification by the approving engineer or its installation. This can only be provided by the professional engineer on behalf of the applicant.

Notwithstanding previous door installations, all large door installations from this date forward must follow the process outlined in this notification.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Watson". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Chris Watson, Ph.D.

Chief Inspector of Explosives

⁽¹⁾Reference: ERD magazine document "Type 1 Magazine Door Installation" dated July 20, 2005.