



**DASMA**  
Door & Access Systems  
Manufacturers Association  
International

GATE OPERATOR & ACCESS CONTROL POINT SYSTEMS DIVISION

# TECHNICAL DATA SHEET

**#371**

1300 Sumner Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2851  
Phone: 216-241-7333 • Fax: 216-241-0105  
E-mail: [dasma@dasma.com](mailto:dasma@dasma.com)

## Automated Vehicular Gate Systems: Checklist for Inspectors and Property Owners

DASMA has developed a checklist to assist inspectors and owners of automated vehicular gate systems, which are typically a very large moving item on a property. It is important that such systems be in good operating condition, and the checklist is intended as an aid in checking the principal elements of gate systems.

Do not repair or adjust gate systems yourself. Contact a trained gate systems technician with any questions or to make any repairs or adjustments.

Please note that the checklist is intended to be a summary of many important automated vehicular gate aspects, but may not inclusively identify all potential hazards of every specific gate system installation.

See the following page for a copy of the checklist.

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**Note: Technical Data Sheets are information tools only and should not be used as substitutes for instructions from individual manufacturers. Always consult with individual manufacturers for specific recommendations for their products and check the applicable local regulations.**

This Technical Data Sheet was prepared by the members of DASMA's Operator & Electronics Division Technical Committee. DASMA is a trade association comprising manufacturers of rolling doors, fire doors, grilles, counter shutters, sheet doors, and related products; upward-acting residential and commercial garage doors; operating devices for garage doors and gates, sensing devices, and electronic remote controls for garage doors and gate operators; as well as companies that manufacture or supply either raw materials or significant components used in the manufacture and installation of the Active Members' products.

**Automated Vehicular Gate Systems: Checklist for Inspectors and Property Owners**

**Instructions:** A vehicular gate is typically a very large moving item on a property. It is important that it be in good operating condition and installed according to manufacturer's instructions. Using this checklist will help you to check the principal elements of the gate system. Mark each item with a check mark ("√") to indicate "pass" or with an "X" to indicate "fail." Do not repair or adjust the gate system yourself. Contact a trained gate systems technician with any questions or to make any repairs or adjustments.

*Please note that the checklist is intended to be a summary of many important automated vehicular gate aspects, but may not inclusively identify all potential hazards of every specific gate system installation.*

**Items for Inspectors to Check**

Item	Description
Visual Inspection Gate System	Visually inspect the rollers, fasteners, brackets and other gate hardware for proper alignment, proper tightness, and signs of damage, breakage, looseness, rust or wear. Moving parts should be lubricated and should not be squeaking. Visually inspect wiring for fraying or exposure. Verify that the system has in place two means of entrapment protection: a primary and a secondary means, independent from the primary. Typical means are inherent entrapment (force limiting), edge sensors, or photoelectric eyes. Other means are possible. For more information see the manufacturer's instructions.
Operator Listing Label	See if the operator has a listing label indicating conformance to UL 325.
Controls Placement	Check if placement of user operational controls is six or more feet from the gate.
Manufacturing Date of Operator	Gate operators manufactured before March, 2000 may not have adequate safety provisions. If a homeowner does not allow disconnection at the time of inspection, such an operator should be flagged as an item that must be either inspected by a trained gate systems technician or removed / replaced / disconnected and taken out of service. Replacement is the preferred option.
Gate Fall-over and Roller Guarding	Check if there is a means to prevent the gate from falling over in the event of the failure of the gate rollers or hinge. Ensure all rollers are guarded to eliminate possibility of a finger being inserted between roller and gate.
Electric Operation	Begin with the gate fully closed. Cause the gate to fully open and fully close. Watch and listen for any irregularities in operation, e.g. uneven speed, excessive sway, unusual stopping, etc.
Edge Sensor	When a gate has an edge sensor, inspect sensor and wiring for cracks, breaks, holes, crimps or other physical damage. Check mounting location(s) with respect to reducing the risk of entrapment protection in both directions of gate travel. Check edge sensor for proper operation (see step #9)
Photoelectric Eyes	When a gate has photoelectric eyes, inspect wiring and reflectors for signs of cracking, breakage, looseness or wear. Check mounting location(s) with respect to reducing the risk of entrapment protection in both directions of gate travel. Check for proper operation (see step #10)
Contact Reverse Test	Perform the following test on (1) vertical frame member(s) and (2) each vertical edge sensor provided (if any): Begin with the gate in the fully open position. Standing just outside the path of the gate at a location where entrapment is likely to occur, cause the gate to close. As the gate is closing, firmly press a solid object against a gate frame member (or edge sensor) in the direction opposing the travel of the gate. The gate should stop within 2 seconds and then reverse at least 2 inches. Repeat this test, while opening the gate, starting from the fully closed position.
Non-Contact Reverse Test	If the gate has a non-contact sensing device protecting the path of a closing gate, perform the following test: Begin with the gate fully open. Standing just outside the path of the gate, cause the gate to close. Pass an object across the path of the sensing beam as the gate is closing. The gate must stop within 2 seconds and may reverse if so designed.. If a non-contact sensor protects the path of an opening gate, repeat starting with the gate in the fully closed position.
Safety / Warning Signs	Safety / Warning signs must be installed on each side of the gate in highly visible locations.

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Openings in gate and fence (horizontal slide gate)	Measure the maximum size opening in the gate and that portion of a fence the gate covers when fully open. Openings must be 2 ¼” or less within 72” of the ground.
Barbed Wire / Barbed Tape & Protrusions	Estimate the height above grade of barbed wire/tape, if used. Height of barbed wire should be 6' minimum, and barbed tape should be 8' minimum. <b>IMPORTANT: Do not touch</b> barbed wire or tape. Any protrusions on the leading, trailing, and bottom edges of the gate must be less than 1/2 in. (12.7mm) and smooth on all surfaces with no sharp edges.
Manual Release	Ensure the gate operator has a method to allow the gate to be manually operated.
Manual Operation	Begin with the gate fully closed. Actuate the manual release for the operator per the manufacturer’s written instructions. Carefully open and close the gate for one full cycle. The gate should operate smoothly. Reconnect the operator and note any problems encountered in that process.
Pedestrian Gate	Verify that the required pedestrian gate is functional, is located nearby, and does not cause additional hazards. The pedestrian gate must be a separate gate, must not be located within the vehicular gate, and must be located such that a pedestrian cannot come in contact with a moving vehicular access gate. .

By signing this inspection checklist, I/we hereby certify that each item listed and checked above has been examined by the inspector and is clearly understood by the customer.

Customer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Inspector Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**DASMA has developed a brochure that provides information about safe gate ownership and operation. Visit the DASMA website, [www.dasma.com](http://www.dasma.com), to obtain a copy online, contact DASMA at 216-241-7333, or e-mail DASMA at [dasma@dasma.com](mailto:dasma@dasma.com)**

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