

# DASMA'S TOP TECHNICAL VICTORIES

By Joe Hetzel, DASMA Technical Director

## What has DASMA done for you lately?

Have we had an impact on your sales? Did our work affect many different products? Did we make a long-term positive impact on the industry?

You bet we did. Here is my chronological list of the five most noteworthy accomplishments since 2009.

### 1 Greatly Strengthening Gate Safety

In 2009, UL 325 and ASTM F2200 were referenced in the International Fire Code (IFC), the International Building Code (IBC), and the International Residential Code (IRC).

These two safety-related provisions govern automated vehicular gate systems, particularly gate operators (UL 325) and gate construction (ASTM F2200). Getting them referenced in these major codes successfully mandated their safety requirements nationwide.

*Why the win?* Practically overnight, the level of safety and product integrity significantly increased. This leveled the playing field instantly and effectively discouraged anyone who cut corners on safety.



### 2 First-Ever Guidance for Dock Doors

In 2009, we also published TDS 182, titled "Technical Considerations for Dock Doors."

This Technical Data Sheet provided a guide to better understanding the technical requirements for vehicular access doors in loading docks.

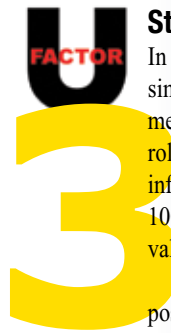
*Why the win?* TDS 182 provided first-time-ever official guidance on dock doors and their environments. These four simple pages greatly improved many important coordination issues for dock door installations. The TDS became immediately popular and has consistently ranked in the top five most-downloaded Technical Data Sheets from dasma.com.



### 3 Streamlining Insulation Ratings

In 2010, DASMA created a simplified computer-simulation method, available to DASMA members, for determining garage door and rolling door U-factors. We also successfully influenced revisions to code-referenced NFRC 100 to include proven methods for simulating and validating garage and rolling door U-factors.

*Why the win?* This victory opened up the possibility of rating any size product instead of only a tested size. It also allowed manufacturers to speed up their research efforts and bring new insulated products to the market faster.



### 4 Paving the Way for Green Doors

In 2012, we published TDSs 187, 294, and 403, titled "Environmental Considerations for Exterior Doors."

These three Technical Data Sheets provided a fresh overview of the critically important topics of R-value, U-factor, air infiltration, and solar heat gain, among other environmental factors.

*Why the win?* These documents were the first of their kind during the burgeoning green movement. They provided a complete background behind the various environmental requirements, providing valuable guidance to an industry in transition.



### 5 Championing the Energy Savings of High-Speed Doors

In 2013, DASMA established high-speed door air infiltration and U-factor requirements.

These were incorporated in key code-enforcement documents, including the International Energy

Conservation Code (IECC), ASHRAE 90.1, and ASHRAE 189.1.

*Why the win?* This accomplishment gave high-speed doors a quantum leap in being recognized for their energy-saving value. A companion calculation spreadsheet, available to DASMA members, easily demonstrates these doors' significant long-term energy savings to key authorities.

