

ASK JOE HETZEL

DASMA Technical Director

Rolling Steel Fire Doors

Q Can multiple rolling steel fire doors be controlled by a single fusible link?

Joe: Please note the following.

- The terms and conditions of a fire door label dictate what is and what is not allowed in a rolling steel fire door installation.
- The terms and conditions apply to permissibility at the time of initial installation or at the time of repair.
- The authority having jurisdiction would need to approve this design.
- If there are two doors installed back to back on the same opening, they would have to be controlled by one link so that the separation of any link would cause both doors to close. If the doors are side by side, an issue may be that fusible links are only rated to handle so much load (approximately 40 lbs.). So, depending on the number of doors and the design of the doors and closing system, use of a single fusible link may be limited because the load rating could be exceeded fairly easily.

Q We have a rolling steel fire door that no longer operates. Can we just leave it in the closed position?

Joe: No. A rolling steel fire door that is no longer needed to function as a door cannot be left in the closed position and ignored.

NFPA 80 requires that the door must either be maintained as an operational door, including annual inspection and drop testing, or the door must be removed and the opening filled to maintain the required rating of the wall assembly. A rolling steel fire door is rated differently from its surrounding wall material and thus cannot be considered the same as a wall.

These and other rolling steel fire door Q&As will be published at the DASMA website. Look for an announcement in a future edition of D+AS. ■



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