

THE 2025 DASMA ANNUAL MEETING

Advancing industry-focused initiatives through collaboration

By Vicki Jones, Editor

On Jan. 20-23, the 2025 DASMA Annual Meeting was held at the Marriott Sanibel Harbour Resort. Attendance was strong, with 217 members attending and 83 companies represented. The weather was unusually cold for Florida, but that didn't discourage DASMA members from enjoying the beautiful venue, networking with colleagues, and discussing relevant industry issues.

Day one — off and running

The four-day schedule was packed with constructive technical and division committee meetings that allowed members to collaborate and advance important initiatives.

On day one, the CDO Entrapment Protection Task Group, the Gate Operator & Access Control Point Systems Division, the Joint Door Operator & Gate Operator Steering Committee, and Rolling Door Codes & Standards Committee met. The groups analyzed division-specific Technical Data Sheets, discussed industry-relevant topics, and created subcommittees and task force groups as needed.

Poster contest — new judging format

Next, attendees networked at the Welcome Reception where they enjoyed cocktails, appetizers, and the opportunity to view the Associate Member posters submitted for the annual contest.

DASMA holds its Associate Member Poster Contest at the Annual Meeting every year. For 2025, 11 companies participated, including Action Industries, AkzoNobel, American Spring, Arrow Tru-Line, AZZ Precoat Metals, Canimex, Iowa Spring Group, Service Spring, SGD Springs, Sivaco, and Westlake Royal Building Products.

For the first time, DASMA attendees had the opportunity to vote for their favorite poster instead of a small panel of judges selecting

the winner. The creativity and quality of the posters this year were exceptional, making the competition intense and the selection of a winner a tough decision for the large group.

New members — same loaded agenda

Day two began with the New Member/First Time Orientation and transitioned into a series of DASMA committee and division meetings from 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Groups from the High Performance Door Division, Magazine/Marketing Committee, and Commercial & Residential Garage Door Technical Committee continued momentum on a wide range of projects currently affecting the industry.

The day's meetings concluded with DASMA Legal Counsel Christina Pannos providing the Product Liability & Safety Committee presentation. She covered updates to OSHA regulations for 2025 and delivered thought-provoking insights into the legality of the surveillance and recording of employees and related conversations.

Keynote address — groundbreaking data

DASMA invited President and CEO of the Federal Alliance for Safe Homes (FLASH) Leslie Chapman-Henderson to provide the keynote presentation "Garage Doors on the Rise: How the policy, marketplace, and technical landscape are redefining their critical role in resilience." Chapman-Henderson highlighted the expanding public awareness of garage door performance in extreme weather events and how it is driving engagement with broadcast meteorologists, public policy leaders, and consumers.

She also shared powerful new research conducted for the FEMA Building Science Branch, public outreach campaigns, and opportunities for DASMA member engagement in resilience programs. For more

WELCOME NEW DASMA MEMBERS

The following companies joined DASMA in late 2024 and/or at the beginning of 2025:

New Active Members

- CM Doors
- Rollup Door, Inc.
- SteelBlue Building Technologies

New Associate Members

- American Spring
- Atlas Molded Products
- NCFI Polyurethanes

Professional (associated with the Rolling Door Division)

- ICC Evaluation Services

about Chapman-Henderson's enlightening presentation, see pp. 34.

Seize the moment — give your "Fast Pitch"

DASMA's Fast Pitch event was well attended and well received. 18 Associate member companies participated, and each had the opportunity to schedule a five-minute meet-and-greet session with any of the 11 Active member companies in attendance.

Fast Pitch participants appreciated the extended schedule of this year's event. It afforded Associate members a little more time to engage in quality discussions with senior management from our Active DASMA members.

Banquet dinner — awards and acknowledgements

Immediately following the Fast Pitch event, attendees gathered for the banquet dinner and

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award ceremony. DASMA President Michel Beaudoin led the evening by acknowledging the important work of Colin Willmott, who passed away at the age of 89 on December 10, 2024. Willmott contributed to the industry for 59 years. For more on his remarkable career, see page 56.

Beaudoin also gave special recognition to longtime DASMA members and influential contributors Steve Hahn and Christian Leiser, who will be retiring in 2025.

Next, he invited IDA President-elect Byron Burland to provide DASMA attendees an overview of current IDA initiatives and events. Byron shared his history in the industry, provided a quick overview of IDA's upcoming events, and discussed the cooperative efforts of DASMA and IDA. For more on Burland, see page 60.

Great ads and posters – and we cannot lie

The dinner concluded by recognizing the poster and Door + Access Systems Newsmagazine

Advertisement of the Year (AOY) finalists and winners.

After tallying attending DASMA members' votes from our digital online poll, Canimex's "Technology is in our nature" poster was selected as the 2025 Poster Contest winner. One attendee said, "The imagery and message of the poster really made [him] feel something." The winning Canimex poster will be published as an advertisement, for free, in an upcoming issue of D+AS Newsmagazine.

Next, the finalists of the AOY contest were announced. After combing through nearly 200 ads published in D+AS Newsmagazine in 2024, a panel of 15 judges determined the top five. "This was the best group of ads I've seen in my over 20 years of judging in the contest," said one judge. "Even the ads that didn't make it to the final five were very creative this year."

After presenting the pros and cons of each of the ad finalists, Janus' "We like big doors, and we cannot lie" advertisement was recognized as the 2024 AOY. Janus' winning artwork will be featured, for free, in the

spring 2025 issue of the magazine. See page 28 for additional details.

Final days – the momentum continues

On day three, work continued with the Thermal Performance Verification Committee and Associates Division meetings as well as several steering committee and division meetings, including the Door Operator & Electronics, Rolling Door, and Commercial & Residential Garage Door divisions. The day concluded with the Board of Directors meeting.

For the second consecutive year, a fourth day of meetings was scheduled to accommodate all the necessary work groups. The Training & Education Committee and Joint Technical Group wrapped up the week during their productive and collaborative sessions. ■

DASMA member dues include one registration to both the annual and midyear meetings. Members also receive a significant advertising rate discount with D+AS Newsmagazine. Interested in becoming a DASMA member? Email dasma@dasma.com.

