

Testing of power-operated doors

The safety requirements for power-operated doors are covered by BGR 232 (formerly ZH 1/494) "Rules for Power -Operated Windows, Doors and Gates", BGI 861 "BG Information: Safe Handling of Doors" and the new ASR 1.7 workplace rules, among others.

According to section 6 of BGR 232 and section 10.2 of ASR A1.7, power-operated doors must be tested for safety by a competent person prior to commissioning and at least once annually. This test should not be equated with maintenance.

In addition, maintenance of the door system must take place at least annually and can also be required more frequently, depending upon site and operating conditions (environmental conditions). A visual examination of the door system must take place after a maximum of 1500 cycles.

A competent person is someone who, by virtue of their technical training and experience, has sufficient knowledge of the power-operated door field and is sufficiently familiar with the relevant national occupational health and safety regulations, accident prevention regulations and recognised rules of sound engineering practice (e.g. BG rules, DIN standards, VDE provisions, technical rules and regulations of other member states of the European Union or other signatory states of the Agreement of the European Economic Area) that they are able to assess the safe working condition of power-operated doors. They include skilled personnel from the manufacturing or supplying companies, the operator's relevant skilled personnel or others with appropriate expertise.

Competent persons must deliver their assessment objectively, from an occupational safety viewpoint, and without influence from others, e.g. economic circumstances.