

Issues in Facilities Management and Maintenance

a Malaysian Perspective

Maisarah Ali
Puteri Shireen Jahn Kassim



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MANAGEMENT AND
MAINTENANCE
A MALAYSIAN PERSPECTIVE

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FIRE SAFETY IN BUILDINGS AND FIRE DOOR ASSESSMENT PRINCIPLES AND STANDARDS

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1.1 INTRODUCTION

The fire resistant doorset is the most widely used and accepted means of fire protection of openings in a building's structure. In case of fire they provide important functions; provide safe egress from a fire area, inhibit fire from spreading throughout the building or to the adjacent building, protect life and property by reducing smoke hazards, and provide use as a regular door pathway at all times. It is also one of the most abused fire-resistance assemblies, simply because it is subjected to traffic and it has moving parts which comes into contact with humans more than any other assemblies.

Fire is the most important discovery of human civilization. The discovery of fire is one of the greatest findings of mankind. Flame and fire have been playing a major role in shaping the lives of human beings on our globe since the time immemorial. It is now an established fact that the man's subsequent mastery over the fire has made all the developments in science and technology that we enjoy today. Mainly our modern civilization is built upon the combustion of fuels both for heat and electrical power. In recent times, combustion has also played a very important role in driving the human race towards the path of prosperity and progress as around 80% of our worldwide energy demand is met by the combustion of fuel (Mishra, 2008).

However fire can also cause colossal damage to life and property. Fires occur frequently and destroy life and property in buildings. In the United Kingdom, for example, public fire brigades attend more than 400,000 fires every year in which about 800 people are killed and 15,000 sustain non-fatal injuries (Ramachandran, 1998). In his article, Karter also wrote that fire departments had responded to an estimated 530,500 structure fires occur in the United States during 2007.