



March 23, 2020

Door and Access System Industry Deemed Essential Business

Both the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the majority of state guidelines have declared that, as part of the social distancing strategy to slow the outbreak of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus) Disease, only essential services should continue to remain in operation during the state of emergency. Most jurisdictions have issued lists of “essential services” industries, which generally include construction services, and which specifically cover providing safety and maintenance services to industrial, commercial and residential locations.

This letter has been prepared for its members by the International Door Association (IDA), a nonprofit trade association representing door and access systems all over the world. IDA has reviewed the emergency declarations, including “shelter in place” and “stay-at-home” orders throughout the United States, and determined that those orders have uniformly identified essential businesses to maintain the continuity of operations to federal critical infrastructure sectors, as identified by the US Department of Homeland Security’s Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), as being exempt from said orders.

Among those exempted “essential businesses” are grocery stores, drug stores, medical facilities, logistics providers, hardware providers, and government facilities. Additionally, most stay-at-home orders recognize that maintenance of residential and commercial structures is also an “essential service.”

This service technician is operating pursuant to the CDC guidelines regarding maintaining “social distancing” and other safe working practices during this unusual time. Service, repairs, and replacements of garage doors, electric openers, gates, gate openers, in addition to other access systems and their components are critical to ensure that necessary movement of people and vehicles is not compromised, in order to protect the health and safety of citizens, businesses, governmental units, and their property and facilities.

We request that you permit this service technician, who is employed by an IDA member, to perform his duties in recognition of said services being classified as an “essential service” under federal and state guidelines.

About IDA

The International Door Association (IDA) is a nonprofit trade association representing door and access system dealers and suppliers all over the world. The association includes the large majority of garage door dealers, manufacturers and individual technicians in the door and access system industry, and provides resources in the name of advocacy, education and collaboration with likeminded organizations. IDA’s goal is to advance the industry with increased professionalism and product quality unmatched by any other industry.