

# FDM NEWS

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# FDM



“WANTS  
**YOU**”

**TO BE THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON!**

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# UNVEILING OUR STORY AND SERVICES

## About us

FDM is your go-to place for Fire Door training, inspections, and maintenance. Our mission is to elevate Fire Door safety standards and support organisations in navigating the changing regulatory landscape.



## Our Services

At FDM, we have over 400 highly trained experts across the UK ready to inspect and maintain your Fire Doors. We offer off-the-shelf services along with bespoke solutions to meet the needs of our customers.

We have excellent relationships with many of the UK's leading door manufacturers. We leverage those relationships to ensure that our operatives are skilled in dealing with any type of Fire Door that you will find in the UK.

We offer a comprehensive and detailed asset-checking service. The level of detail we can provide does depend on the amount of information that is available. We research the history of the door and its components. The historic element can be incredibly valuable. When component changes are made to the door post-installation, it can impact whether or not the door is still compliant. This includes the ability to source primary test evidence from manufacturers which may have installed doors several years ago.

Our thorough inspections test every element of the fire door and its components. Test evidence will be recorded, and thorough reports will be provided. We partner with CCS, whose software enables us to incorporate this evidence into a more thorough and comprehensive fire door inspection solution. We are proud to be able to offer this level of detail and we believe this is integral to the 'Golden Thread of Information', helping the Fire Door industry become safer and more compliant.

All FDM operators have been specially trained at our state-of-the-art Fire Door training facility. This training has been developed based on FDM's vast industry knowledge and experience of the Fire Doors and involves practical and theory-based learning. The training centre includes doors from many manufacturers across the UK, which means our operatives are well-equipped to handle any fire door.

At FDM service operatives are specially trained to carry out work to the highest standard, ensuring safety and full compliance with UK legislation.

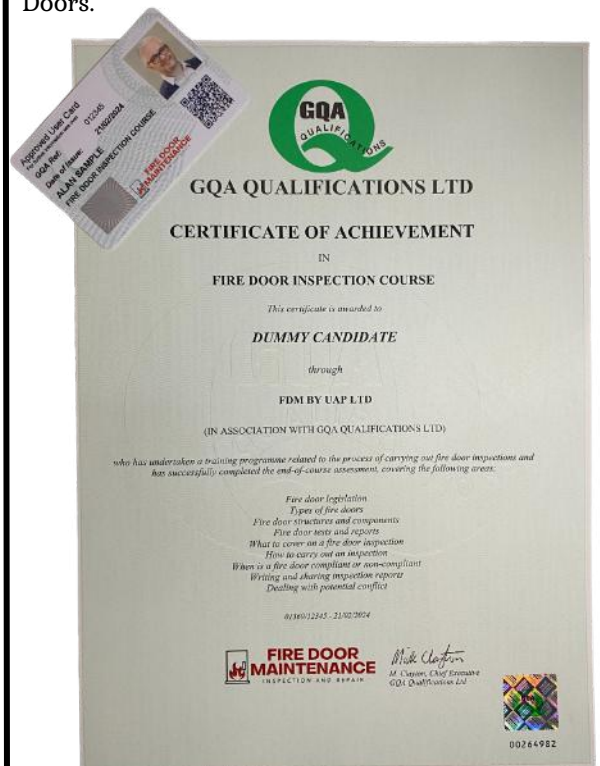
## Accreditation

Our training courses are GQA Accredited and those who complete it successfully, will get a certificate or a skills card to show they have passed the end of course assessment.

GQA Qualifications is an Awarding Organisation that specialises in providing qualifications in the fenestration sector.

The "GQA Skills Card" is an identity card demonstrating that the cardholder has achieved the required standard in a particular training course.

If successful, you will be awarded a GQA Qualifications and FDM joint branded Skills Card to show you are competent in the Inspection of Fire Doors.



# THEN & NOW



**Sara Richardson**  
FDM Training Manger

“Feeling grateful for the journey I've witnessed with FDM's transformation. The evolution of our building is a testament to our growth and commitment to excellence. Excited to extend an invitation for our upcoming fire door training courses. It's an opportunity to enhance safety knowledge and ensure we're all prepared. Looking forward to welcoming you all!”

# UNVEILING OUR STORY AND SERVICES

08 FEB

Orbital 60, Dumers Lane, Bury, BL9 9UE



In February 2024, we opened our doors to our GQA-accredited, state-of-the-art training facility to train Fire Door inspectors, installers and maintainers to meet and exceed UK Fire Door regulations. FDM's courses are designed for practical-minded individuals, blending theory with hands-on experience, stepping away from the conventional written formats typically seen in other Fire Door training.

## GALLERY



# UNVEILING OUR STORY AND SERVICES



"The launch of FDM's Training Academy is exceptionally timely, coinciding with a significant phase of introspection within the construction industry. This introspection, fuelled by the demands of the Building Safety Act 2022, aims to enhance overall quality, compliance, and competence following a series of tragic events resulting in devastating loss of life"

Dan Brown

★★★★★



"The Locksmith Journal team attended the official open day of the Fire Door Maintenance (FDM) Training Centre in Bury, Greater Manchester, held on the 8th February. We were not only blown away by the amount of investment made into the first fire door training facility of its kind, but also the time and organisation that went into the event, which delivered a perfect launch day for the new centre"

The locksmith Journal

★★★★★



"FDM's training facilities are industry leading. Having sat their Inspection course personally, I can say with confidence that this is the 'go to' practical/theory training centre in the UK. I strongly recommend anyone that is involved within the fire safety sector in the UK, to expand their skill set with FDM's help and industry leading knowledge and accredited training courses"

John Merry

★★★★★



"It was great to attend the official opening of the Fire Door Maintenance (FDM) Training Academy, based in Bury, Greater Manchester. Purpose built, the 3,000ft' Training Academy is said to be the UK's first practical training centre for the fire door industry, and has been launched by Fire Door Maintenance (FDM) to raise safety standards across the industry at a crucial time for the build environment. Comprising different types of fire doors and components from a range of manufacturers, the facility will provide a dedicated space for hands-on training plus classrooms for theory-based learning"

Total Installer Magazine

★★★★★



"The establishment of the UK's first practical fire door training centre by FDM represents a landmark development in fire safety education and practice. The comprehensive range of courses offered, coupled with the facility's focus on practical, hands-on learning, reflects a deep understanding of the complexities involved in fire door safety and maintenance"

International Fire and Safety Journal

★★★★★

AND MUCH MORE...

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# MEET THE FACES BEHIND THE FDM TEAM

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Nicola John, MD



Dan Cope, Sales Director



Sara Richardson,  
Training Centre  
Manager



Magia Sonidou,  
Digital Marketing Executive

Our centre is led by industry experts who provide practical, hands-on training to enable fire door operatives (of all skill levels) to carry out work that is compliant with UK standards and legislation.

They blend theory with hands-on experience, stepping away from the conventional written formats typically seen in other Fire Door training.

All fire doors differ from manufacturer to manufacturer, and therefore, the way that each door is inspected must differ. What makes us stand out from other training providers is the bespoke way that we train our operators to handle any Fire Door in a safe and compliant manner.

Our approach focuses on ensuring all course attendees have the knowledge to carry out work that is fully compliant with UK standards and regulations.

We offer a number of off-the-shelf courses, and training can also be tailored to an organisation's unique needs.

Our courses are flexible and easily adaptable to cater to the unique requirements of organisations looking to train their staff to a high standard.

Please note that all FDM service providers and operatives have been trained at the FDM training centre.

# THE GOLDEN THREAD



## WEAVING TOGETHER THE INDUSTRY FOR A SAFER FUTURE

Traditionally, each segment of the building industry—design, construction, inspection, and maintenance—has operated independently and within its silos. Why does that matter? Important information can slip through the cracks, significantly impacting safety and compliance and potentially resulting in serious and even fatal consequences. Dame Judith Hackitt's "Building a Safer Future" report emphasised the need for better industry communication, collaboration, and transparency. It introduced a new concept called "The Golden Thread" to address this issue.

### 'BUILDING A SAFER FUTURE' REPORT

This report notes that there are currently significant issues in the production, maintenance and handover of building information by those responsible for the design, construction and refurbishment of a building.

This lack of complete and accurate information causes several worrying challenges, including:

- It is unclear whether changes made between a building's original design and completion may impact its safety strategy.
- The owner does not have up-to-date information to easily and effectively manage building safety across its lifecycle.
- When refurbishing a building, it is difficult to understand the impact of these changes on the safety of the building.

### A FRAGMENTED INDUSTRY THAT NEEDS TO CHANGE

Judith Hackitt's interim report identified a significant flaw in the current regulatory system as a lack of skills, knowledge, and experience and no formal process for assuring the skills of those involved at any stage of the lifecycle of high-rise residential buildings. While many competent people work within the system, the lack of a coherent and comprehensive approach to competence can seriously impact and compromise fire safety. The current approach to competence is fragmented. There is no interaction within disciplines and no view of the building as a single entity or system.

### HOW WILL THE GOLDEN THREAD ADDRESS THESE CHALLENGES?

The Golden Thread is designed to create a continuous record of information, ensuring that every person involved in a building's lifecycle, including design, build, installation, and maintenance, is fully informed, accountable and aware of their roles and responsibilities, as well as those of others working within the chain.

It will also ensure that the original design intent is preserved and that changes can be managed. Access to up-to-date information is crucial for fire risk assessments and determining whether the building is safe for occupants.

The report recommended creating and using digital recordings throughout the building life cycle. The duty holder is responsible for initiating, holding, and maintaining this record of information.

Following this report, there have been some regulatory updates, including the Building Safety Act. This act calls for strict compliance and increased communication among all stakeholders. Such measures are designed to enhance safety and create greater accountability and more fluid and open communication between stakeholders and touchpoints. It's time for the industry to embrace the Golden Thread.

### UNDERSTANDING THE IMPACT OF THE GOLDEN THREAD FROM A FIRE DOOR PERSPECTIVE

Within the Fire Door industry, the Golden Thread ensures that everyone, including manufacturers, installers and landlords, understands the product specifications, safety standards, and regulatory requirements.

FDM offers a wide range of training, services, and partnership opportunities to support every stakeholder in the fire door industry. FDM's training (GQA accredited) will help you bridge knowledge between different trades and phases in the building process. You will understand the roles and responsibilities that precede and follow your own. This will allow you to understand and act upon the guidance and The Golden Thread, improving safety and compliance in your work and within the industry.

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# THE BUILDING SAFETY ACT.

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## CHANGE IS COMING. WE'RE READY, ARE YOU?

By Nicola John, Managing Director, FDM

During the Construction Leaders' Summit 2023, Dame Judith Hackett discussed the urgent need for a proactive approach to building safety driven by collaboration, transparency, and a commitment to ethical practices across the construction industry.

The industry must be competent, accountable, responsible, and ready. Regulatory changes will impact products and site work throughout the UK.

FDM is preparing for regulatory changes in the coming years. All FDM courses and services are designed to improve safety and compliance and to support others in the industry in improving standards and preparing for change. We all have a responsibility and duty, and at FDM, we are fully committed to playing our part and supporting the industry moving forward.

The reality is that we are not ready as an industry. But change is a journey, and collectively, we have not yet reached the destination. Positive change is underway; we can see that across the industry, and FDM is dedicated to collaborating with other industry stakeholders to solve the complex challenges and hurdles for a safer environment for everyone.

Fire doors can and should be a life-saving product. All buildings must be safe and fit to live in, and having safe and compliant fire doors is critical to ensure that buildings are indeed safe. Tradespeople and operatives handling fire doors must understand the impact of their work on safety. And how their jigsaw piece fits into the bigger picture, the 'golden thread'.

Handling a fire door safely and competently is achievable. However, it requires expert knowledge, skills, training, and a broader understanding of the golden thread and the products being used. Look no further than FDM. Over the last six years, we have been aware of Dame Judith Hackett's work and recommendations, and we have taken a proactive and forward-thinking approach in everything we do.



FDM is dedicated to supporting the industry with inspection, installation, and maintenance training courses and inspection and maintenance services from our highly trained team of experts.

Working with FDM promises confidence in the safety and compliance of your fire doors.

Ready to be part of positive change? If you are an organisation wanting to improve the compliance and safety of your fire doors, or a company looking to upskill your team in line with new regulations, please get in touch.



# WHY SPECIALIST TRAINING IS KEY TO IMPROVING FIRE DOOR SAFETY

Nicola John, Managing Director of Fire Door Maintenance (FDM), explains the vital need for fire door safety training and how a new facility will benefit builders merchants and their customers.

The need for more stringent fire door installations, inspections and maintenance is intensifying. Post Grenfell and in line with the demands of the Building Safety Act 2022, improving overall quality, compliance and competence is essential. Although changes to fire safety regulation will help to meet these aims, knowledge gaps still need to be filled across the construction industry, and builders' merchants are no exception.

As highlighted at the Grenfell inquiry, 106 of the 120 doors in the building had been replaced and comprised different hardware from the tested door. This issue contributed to the doors not performing as expected.

Speaking at the inquiry, expert witness Dr Lane said: "If you want to use the phrase 'getting the door through the test' it [the hardware] is a sensitive business. Any piece of metal, locks, letter boxes may act as heat spread route, flame spread route, hot smoke route and cause the door to fail."

To address these safety risks, the importance of sourcing primary test evidence should not be underestimated. This will confirm a door and all its components have been installed and tested as a complete doorset, so should perform to the required specification. If this evidence reveals that any of the components have been substituted or changed, this could lead to non compliance.

In line with the 'golden thread' all information relating to the doorset, including testing and certification should also be traceable back to the manufacturer.

To raise safety standards, all those responsible for selling, installing, inspecting and maintaining fire doors must be aware of these risks. This is increasing the need for more specialist training and why FDM has launched a new facility to meet this aim. Located in Bury, Greater Manchester, the Training Academy is the UK's first practical training centre for the fire door industry. Purpose built, the 3,000 sq ft site comprises dedicated spaces for hands-on training and classrooms for theory-based learning. UAP, which owns FDM, is located in the same building, which spans a total of 120,000 sq ft. With extensive backing from across the industry, the Training Academy was officially opened in February 2024. More than 90 guests, including local councillors and representatives from the fire safety, door manufacturing, and hardware sectors, attended the event.

## UPSKILLING MERCHANTS

As distributors of a wide range of fire door components, including door slabs, hardware, and intumescent seals, merchants have a key role to play in enhancing safety. This has led to FDM developing a fire-door awareness training course tailored for merchants, which will launch at the Training Academy in April 2024.

The importance of both procuring and selling fire door components which have been tested together will be at the centre of the training. This includes merchants' role in sourcing primary test evidence and how they can use this knowledge to educate their customers and end users.

To complete the course, participants will spend a day at the Training Academy. Different types of doors and components from a variety of manufacturers are set up in designated rooms along a corridor reflecting a multi-occupied building. This enables participants to learn the nuances of each product and the potential impact on safety.

A trade counter, sponsored by timber merchant, Harlow, has also been installed within the facility to support practical learning. This counter incorporates a variety of industry products to help guide merchants on components which should be procured and sold together.

## SETTING THE STANDARD

All courses at the Training Academy are being developed in conjunction with GQA Qualifications, an awarding body for specialist and occupational roles. These include accredited training courses on fire door inspection, fire door maintenance, and fire door installation.

Each course has been designed with meticulous assessment and learning content to address the life-safety risks associated with fire safety doors in buildings, including the risk of changing or substituting components. After completion of these courses, participants receive a GQA skills card.

GQA can also work with FDM to provide bespoke training specifically aligned to the needs of a business, including merchants.

As part of FDM's offer, the Training Academy will be used to provide bespoke training for our own operatives too. This workforce is available to housing associations and local authorities seeking to outsource fire door inspections, maintenance and installations.

## TURNING THE TIDE

The pressing need for more thorough fire door installations, inspections and maintenance has spurred the demand for specialised skills and knowledge. This applies to the entire supply chain, including builders' merchants of all sizes. Through increased awareness of fire door safety and the impact of different components, there is an opportunity to enhance the way products are procured and sold. In turn, this could have a significant, positive impact on installers and end users, ensuring all those responsible for fire doors can achieve compliance and set higher safety standards.



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# THE ADVANTAGES OF SELECTING SPECIALISED, PRIVATE TRAINING OVER A TRADITIONAL EDUCATION PROVIDER

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By Nicola John, Managing Director, FDM

Choosing a private and specialised training provider over a traditional college course could be ideal for those working in a rapidly evolving industry with a changing regulatory landscape.

The Fire Door industry is experiencing change. A private training provider, such as FDM, has the flexibility to adapt quickly and meet the evolving needs of the industry, and the organisations and individuals that work within it. Private providers are not bound by more rigid curriculums that can take time to adjust to industry shifts or changes to legislation.

A private training provider can adapt its curriculum to ensure that learners have the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in that area and address specific challenges. This level of customisation is rarely achievable in the traditional college system, where courses can be standardised and inflexible.

This higher level of responsiveness ensures that learners receive the most current and practical knowledge, helping them to operate safely and compliantly.

Moving away from traditional college courses can also mean moving away from traditional learning methods, which don't necessarily work for everyone, particularly hands-on, practical people. At FDM, we use a blend of hands-on training alongside traditional classroom work, which ensures that the course is fit for purpose and that what you learn during training can be practically applied in day-to-day work.

FDM also offers the opportunity to collaborate with organisations to create bespoke training courses. Training can be directly aligned with an organisation's strategic goals, enhancing the relevance and effectiveness of the education provided.

Specialised training centres can also prioritise hiring passionate and experienced staff within a specific field. Learning from industry experts who understand learners' needs, hurdles, and pain points can offer huge value compared to a broader training provider. At FDM, we specialise in providing detailed and expert-level training developed in collaboration with industry leaders. This laser focus ensures that the training is comprehensive and of the highest quality.

Specific training at a specialised centre also allows the opportunity to meet and network with other individuals and organisations working within the same industry, which can help nurture important relationships and provide opportunities in the future. FDM is already starting to form a passionate community of fire door industry stakeholders who are ready to embrace the industry's evolving nature.



Private training providers like FDM offer a tailored, responsive, high-quality training solution that traditional colleges may find challenging to match.

By adapting quickly to industry and regulatory demands, private training providers fulfil immediate training needs and contribute to the ongoing development of a thriving industry.

# CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS



Looking back to 2017, the Grenfell Tower tragedy highlighted significant issues with the maintenance of fire-resisting entrance and communal doors.

Lacking a suitable maintenance regime leading to inefficiencies and disrepair, the fire doors protecting the stairwells lacked a defined performance standard according to the fire safety strategy and investigations revealed extensive mechanical and operational issues despite a maintenance and replacement program.

The proper upkeep and maintenance of fire-safety doors are crucial for life safety during evacuations. Neglecting this responsibility to appropriately maintain fire doors is neglecting the value of life itself.

Considering the despair many felt after the tragedy of Grenfell Tower, I am often amazed at the lack of widespread understanding of the detail and ignorance of the extreme penalties for regulation violation of the Building Safety Act enacted in 2022, which is aimed at enhancing the quality and life safety of occupants in higher-risk buildings by raising competency standards, and amazed on how many people in the industry do not seem to be motivated, even by loss of life to make any progressive change which might improve the standards and quality of our workmanship.

So, the timing of the Fire Door Maintenance academy's launch is exceptionally relevant, coinciding with a period of introspection in the industry fuelled by the Building Safety Act, aiming to improve overall quality, compliance, and competence in response to tragic events leading to loss of life.

Which is why it is an honour for GQA Qualifications to support the Fire Door Maintenance Academy through accreditation of their training courses because I firmly believe that they are creating something special.



Special, because it addresses the key failings observed in fire doors after the Grenfell tragedy. Special, because of the potential to save lives through comprehensive training of those whose responsibility it is to install and maintain not only fire doors but protect those lives who rely on the level of their competency to maintain the correct functionality of the doors.

As FDM's Awarding Organisation partner, we take immense pride in our collaboration. Seeking accreditation signifies the recognition that addressing life-safety is a responsibility that demands rigor, quality, and demonstrated competency.



The accredited courses awarded by GQA are meticulously designed in collaboration with the FDM team to address life-safety risks associated with fire-safety doors in buildings.

The Fire Door Maintenance academy serves as a model of accomplishment, demonstrating what is possible with determination, concentration, and commitment to enhancing training in this vital sector and ultimately improving the life-safety of occupants across the country.

Congratulations, FDM on this important initiative!



# CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS

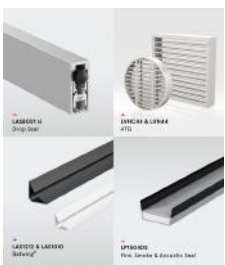


Lorient, leading manufacturer of high-performance sealing systems for fire door assemblies stands at the forefront of promoting fire door safety through a multi-faceted approach that encompasses education, advocacy, product innovation, and collaborative engagement.

Fire doors are often overlooked or underestimated in terms of their critical role in fire safety. Unlike regular doors, fire doors are specifically designed and constructed to withstand fire and prevent its spread from one area to another within a building. They act as a barrier, compartmentalising fire and smoke to contain the fire and provide safe egress routes for occupants.

Fire doors are engineered safety devices comprising many components such as a door leaf and frame, any glazing, intumescent fire and smoke seals, ironmongery that is used on the door, such as hinges, overhead door closers, latches and locks. They act just like any other door in normal service, but in a fire, they take on a critical role – to save lives and protect property.

Lorient manufactures intumescent fire and smoke seals that are made of materials that expand when exposed to heat filling the gap between the leaf and the frame – creating a barrier that blocks the passage of flames and hot gases. Seals will normally be designed to prevent these unwanted elements moving from one side of the door to the other when the door is closed. A modern architectural door assembly, will rely on the sealing system for its performance.



A sealing system will:

- ➔ Fill the gap to prevent or reduce the transfer of these unwanted elements
- ➔ Work with the door assembly to improve aspects of its performance
- ➔ Add minimal resistance to the opening and closing operation of the door
- ➔ Be serviceable in everyday use
- ➔ Be durable in the long term, so that performance is not diminished over time.

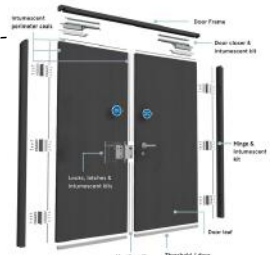
It's critical that fire safety products are proven to perform in the event of a fire – particularly fire doors, which fulfil a life-saving role. Product certification signifies a manufacturer's commitment to go above minimum market requirements. Lorient products carry high levels of product performance backed by not only extensive test evidence, but also a large number of third-party accreditation schemes – independently verifying – amongst other things – their fitness for purpose.

At the heart of Lorient's endeavour lies a commitment to education and awareness about the critical role of fire doors & the importance of sealing systems. A wide range of resources and learning tools are available such as in-house seminars, webinars, technical literature, a comprehensive resource centre on its website, product selector apps & regular technical articles are published on social media channels such as LinkedIn.

The RIBA accredited seminar 'The Role & Performance of Fire & Smoke Resisting Doors' offers the latest insights and expertise in this critical area. Topics covered include regulatory requirements; the nature of smoke; design conflicts between fire containment, smoke containment, durability and ease of operation on the door; Independent accreditation. The CPD can be conducted in-house & tailored depending on the audience. The aim of all of these education tools it is to highlight the importance of fire doors and drive standards & make sure those deemed 'responsible' can make informed decisions and take proactive measures to ensure fire safety compliance.

In addition to advocacy and education, Lorient places significant emphasis on product innovation and quality assurance. Lorient has an extensive product portfolio meticulously engineered to exceed many industry benchmarks. From intumescent seals, air transfer grilles, to intumescent protection for door hardware, each product undergoes rigorous testing and certification processes to ensure optimal performance under diverse fire scenarios. Lorient also actively collaborates with regulatory bodies and industry trade associations to champion for stringent fire safety regulations and standards.

A Lorient recently partnered with Fire Door Maintenance to raise safety standards across the industry; and is delighted to have a manufacturer product showcase at FDM's 3,000ft<sup>2</sup> purpose-built Training Academy. The facility provides an excellent space for hands-on training plus classrooms for theory-based learning to deliver rigorous qualifications to the industry.



**Pyramid** Door Specialists Ltd Pyramid is a company aspiring to the fire door industry as a specialised contractor / provider, with the best advice available through holistic and pragmatic ideology whilst ensuring safety at the forefront. By way of knowledge, qualified technicians and memberships plus certified technicians within our industry.

Pyramid has spent many years associated members of ADSA - automatic door suppliers association and DHF door and hardware association, it was inevitable as a company to further our ambition into the fire door sector. It has been without doubt an 'eye opener' to be gaining knowledge daily by way of association of such training facilities provided by FDM and industry specialists connected with the training centre itself, furthermore a network of providers of products has been formed including UAP and other door manufacturers. This has all helped to increase awareness and implement our expertise, provide assurance to our clients that Pyramid are an on going, up to date company, training our technicians to inspect fire doors, installation and repairs.

Along with Diploma status with FDIS and membership accreditation with FIRAS its obvious that Pyramid yield to be amongst the most stringent regimes in the field of FIRE DOOR safety, Our technicians are tested and proven to be competent with NVQ level 2 in door systems provided by entrance system alliance assessors. With all the our ambition we have a successful directly employed team who are qualified to work on a range of products and apply all the relevant aspects to incorporate a one stop door company. As a automated door installer there are many occasions we are able to apply both fire door integrity and automation, our industrial door knowledge and BRE / DHF certified qualifications ensure we are able to inspect fire roller shutters, the Firas accrediting scheme assures our installations are meeting the criteria of the door test evidence and our inspections of fire doors are backed up by the FDM qualification.

We will continue to partner with FDM and to spread the word of their good practice delivering fire door safety training.

# CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS



In the realm of fire safety, Vicaima has established itself as a leading manufacturer of fire doors, setting new standards in the industry. With a commitment to quality and performance, Vicaima has consistently demonstrated its ability to produce fire doors that not only meet but exceed industry norms.

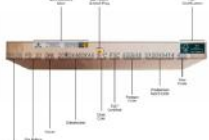
Vicaima's fire doors form a significant part of the 2 million doors produced annually in their factory. The company's unique approach to construction sets it apart from the competition. Instead of using door blanks, Vicaima focuses on traditional construction with the Vicaima Solid Core, providing a more secure base for the fitting of essential ironmongery and a key reason why installers and post-installation inspectors have greater confidence when assessing a Vicaima fire door or doorset product.

The company's dedication to innovation is evident in its extensive range of doorset and kit solutions. These products, under the Easi-Fit and Portaro brands, are designed to create a complete, fully tested assembly, not only encompassing fire performance, but with security and acoustics where required. This approach is increasingly advocated by government and industry as the way to ensure the whole system is safe and compliant. Vicaima's fire doors have been rigorously tested and have achieved impressive results. For example, in the aftermath of the Grenfell disaster, MHCLG independent testing of their 30-minute door assemblies, achieved a remarkable 54 minutes, providing all present, past and future users with considerable assurance in the company's products.



**Golden Thread** - Vicaima applies the principles of the Golden Thread through its commitment to quality, innovation, and sustainability. The Golden Thread is a concept that refers to maintaining a consistent approach to quality and performance throughout a product's lifecycle, from design to delivery and beyond. Innovation is another key aspect of the Golden Thread, and Vicaima is a leader in this area. The company's unique approach to door construction, a focus on trend-setting design, and its extensive range of fire performance solutions, all demonstrate its dedication to future market needs.

**Ai Innovation** - In an era where flexible working is increasingly the norm and technological advancement moves at an ever-increasing pace, this year sees the launch of Vicaima24/7. This Ai driven chatbot is on hand 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, guiding users to a wealth of information spread across installation instructions, maintenance advice, technical datasheets, and many other resources, thus ensuring queries are handled efficiently and effectively.



**Traceability** is a key feature of Vicaima fire doors. This is achieved through unique ink-jet markings on the top edge of the door. These markings help to identify the Vicaima Door model / range, performance, finish, dimensions, and core. Additional data relating to its SKU or product code, manufacturing batch number, and year of manufacture code are also included.

Furthermore, Vicaima fire doors carry tamper-evident labels and/or BM TRADA Q-Mark plugs, depending on the performance specification. These labels and plugs, along with the Vicaima manufacturing codes, provide complete visibility to important information both at the time of installation and throughout the product's lifecycle.

**Sustainability / ESG** - The Vicaima Group is committed, within the framework of the ESG (Environment, Social and Corporate Governance) criteria, to making its contribution towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) defined by the United Nations. Vicaima acts with the responsibility of providing the market with solutions that have a reduced impact on the environment, are accessible to all and ensure people's safety and well-being and contributing to a more inclusive way of living.

As we look to the future, Vicaima continues to lead the way in fire safety. Regardless of what regulatory changes may come, Vicaima is committed to providing appropriate solutions and being the first choice for a safer tomorrow.

"We are extremely pleased that vicaima have chosen us for their team as Fire door training partner and they will also be holding their monthly Sales meeting at our training centre"  
Nicola John MD



R & B Decorators and Refurbishment is a family owned main contractor providing a total service of Decorating, Refurbishment, Passive Fire Protection and Repairs for Internal and External Properties.

R & B, established over 30 years ago, is a successful family run business that over the years has developed a reputation of excellence in service and workmanship. Our dedicated team of project managers, surveyors, customer service specialists and professional trades-people share our philosophy to deliver excellent refurbishment and passive fire protection services and solutions in a timely, well-managed fashion.

Our reputation for quality services has led to our growing success in the commercial, leisure, education, healthcare, residential and industrial sectors in London and the South East. We are extremely proud of our lasting partnerships with our key clients that time and again turn to our trusted team for assistance. Our repeat business really emphasises our commitment towards our clients and our projects.

As part of our ongoing commitment to continuing our training and ensuring that we as the responsible person within the golden thread, we have committed staff to work and train with FDM Ltd, as well as our other third-party accreditation held elsewhere within the business.

# CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS



Contactless Check Solutions (CCS) is revolutionising compliance management for the fire door industry. They provide user-oriented and innovative software solutions to simplify and streamline compliance for fire door manufacturers, installers, inspectors, maintainers, and end clients such as councils, housing associations and facility managers.

CCS's software fully automates the process for fire door manufacturers to effortlessly upload their manufacturing details, starting the Golden Thread trail of information in the life cycle of new fire doors and guaranteeing the correct information against each fire door. Installers, inspectors and maintainers benefit from a wide range of services to simplify the process of inspection and documentation to the end client. User-friendly real time reporting tools, including hyperlinked reports, remove the back-office costs and refine the reporting process to ensure all fire doors meet the strict legal safety requirements, removing the need for costly and confusing manual input. End clients benefit from a dedicated portal with a live, real-time view of their total fire door portfolio, giving access to the full history of every fire door including the required Golden Thread information and details of the relevant bodies. The dashboard is designed to be intuitive and easy to use with drill-down features allowing management questions to be answered efficiently.

CCS seamlessly integrates with existing facilities management systems, utilising CSV, FTP, or API links to provide real-time data reporting tailored to the customer's requirements, all through a fully automated process. This is the trusted and default choice for councils, housing associations, NHS, UK fire door manufacturers as well as service providers for inspections, maintenance and repairs. The system gives confidence to all responsible persons that due diligence can be demonstrated, at any point in time, resulting in the safety of premises and tenants alike.

CCS partners with Fire Door Maintenance (FDM) providing customers with a complete approach to fire door compliance, ensuring that their fire doors are inspected, maintained and repaired in accordance with the legal standards, while ensuring all records are electronically tracked and traceable. Their partnership with FDM and its innovative software solutions streamline the compliance processes and provide customers with the tools and expertise they needed to uphold the highest safety, moral and legal standards.

For those interested in learning more about how CCS can enhance fire door compliance and safety measures, visit us on stand 4/N20 or call us at 0161 646 0110.



Targeted training has the potential to save lives

We live in an age when information on almost any subject can be found at the click of a button. It's so available, it can lull us into a false sense of security – we often think that whatever we may need to know can be found out just as we need it. The danger of this outlook is that the information that is available instantly may be inadequate at best, or unreliable at worst.

This on-demand outlook can also colour the way we think about training, steering us towards online sources to cover everything, but, when it comes to installing and working with potentially life-saving equipment, targeted and effective training is vital.

A fire door is only a fire door if it's kept reliably closed. Installation accuracy is crucial. Online training has its place and plays a very valuable role in providing initial training in various areas of fire door installation. And thanks to its ready accessibility, it can be delivered to busy tradesmen and apprentices where time might not allow anything else. Clearly, any training is better than none. However, detailed training that will achieve full competency in all aspects of installation really has to be delivered in person. And the best form of in-person training includes hands-on practice of the techniques being taught. Nothing can beat the effectiveness of an experienced installer imparting knowledge together with practical tips and tricks, while observing participants having a go at 'doing'.



Hands-on training made readily available on installing all types of door closer. The Rutland Academy was founded to enable installers of all levels of experience to thoroughly grasp how to fit and adjust door closers correctly. Whether that's complex training on how to install electromagnetic closers, or detailed help on how to install a certain type of closer accurately and efficiently, Rutland's practical training courses cover all bases. The courses are personally delivered by members of Rutland's technical team, sharing their specialist knowledge built up over decades in the industry. Motivated by an underlying purpose to enhance life safety at every fire door, our entire team are passionate about enabling optimal installations every time. And the scale of industry experience available to attendees is demonstrated in the fact that Rutland's Technical Director, Kevin O'Reilly, was recently appointed as a Director of the Door and Hardware Federation.



A correctly installed door closer is a genuine lifesaver. It's worth training properly. Some of the finer details of door closer installation and adjustment take a bit of understanding. It's not rocket science, but it's the sort of thing that you don't necessarily get right first time without a few nudges or pointers. Personal training in groups sizes that enable direct interaction between trainer and participant, ensures that full understanding is achieved, and learning can be put into actual practice under the observation of the trainer. The value of an expert at your elbow can't be overestimated and helps to ensure truly effective installations thereafter. Active engagement and participation are the secrets of successful training. It's worth investing in getting it right – it could save lives further down the line.

# CUSTOMERS AND COLLABORATORS

## **FireArrest** Elevating Fire Door Safety Standards with FireArrest

### Introduction

FireArrest is dedicated to enhancing the safety and integrity of fire doors across the UK. Recognising the critical role these components play in safeguarding buildings during emergencies, we focus on improving fire door maintenance and inspection to ensure the highest level of safety when needed most.

### Who We Are at FireArrest?

At FireArrest, we are committed to offering comprehensive and specialised digital fire solutions. Our efforts are centred around providing effective and reliable services that cater to the unique needs of the fire industry, ensuring their expertise is documented without hassle or error. By staying abreast of industry developments and adopting a customer driven approach, we have cemented our reputation as a dependable partner in digital fire safety management.

### Why Focus on Fire Door Safety?

Fire doors are a fundamental element of a building's passive fire protection system, designed to prevent the spread of fire and smoke between compartments. These doors save lives by providing vital escape routes and protection for the building structure. However, their effectiveness hinges on proper installation, maintenance, and compliance with a stringent agenda for maintenance and improving fire door safety.

### Advanced Solutions with the FireArrest App

A cornerstone of our initiative to improve fire door safety is the FireArrest App. Designed specifically for professional, by professionals, this app facilitates seamless management of fire safety tasks. Users can easily document and track maintenance activities using customisable forms, access essential information from the document library, and annotate pictures as needed all within one platform. The app's user-friendly interface ensures that all safety procedures are thoroughly documented, making compliance with regulations straightforward and verifiable. By streamlining these processes, the FireArrest App significantly enhances the efficiency and accuracy of safety management practices.

### Why FireArrest is committed to Enhancing Fire Standards?

FireArrest are consistently improving our software to make it more accessible to all those working in the Fire Safety community to make organisations become "responsible" organisations. Our FireArrest application is designed to simplify and enhance fire recording procedures, offering an array of user-friendly tools and features. From annotated photographs, detailed reports, project overviews and cloud-based storage. FireArrest caters to all Fire Professionals' digital needs, ensuring efficiency, accuracy, and ease of use.

The synergy between FireArrest technology solutions and FDM's practical training approach creates a comprehensive ecosystem for fire door training. This partnership not only benefits the direct participants of the training programme but also sets a benchmark in the industry for how technology can be integrated into specialised training to enhance effectiveness and compliance.

To conclude, the collaboration between FireArrest and FDM Ltd is a pioneering step in fire safety training. By combining FDM's hands-on approach and the technical aspect of FireArrest, this partnership aims to not only meet, but exceed the stringent requirements of fire door regulations, ensuring that professionals are not just trained but are also well equipped to implement their expertise effectively. This collaboration is a model of how technology and practical training can work together to enhance safety standards and regulatory compliance in any safety-critical industry.



Here at Aarhus Fire Protection Ltd, we understand that fire safety is a critical issue for businesses and property owners.

We are here to help you every step of the way, from identifying potential hazards and developing bespoke fire safety solutions to providing ongoing support and maintenance.

A fire can cause devastating damage, resulting in property loss, injury, and even loss of life. That's why we offer comprehensive services to ensure our clients have the best protection against fires. We have recently partnered with a local company FDM who have a likeminded attitude and passion towards the safety of all buildings and more importantly the people within.

We are currently offering training courses by FDM on Fire Door Inspections, Maintenance and Installs. Aarhus Fire Protection Ltd. then offer our follow up service in a one visit per year to consult on your fire management plan with you, including Surveying your building, Asset lists, Fire strategies, Fire risk assessments. Compartmentation surveys, Maintenance Contracts, Installations and remedial works for all Fire alarm systems, Emergency lights, Fire extinguishers, dry risers also CCTV, Intruder alarms and access control. control emergencies, and protect lives and livelihoods.

Aarhus Fire Protection Ltd. are looking to provide a full wrap around for the complete fire safety package of your building ensuring you remain compliant against all the up-to-date standards. Remember, commercial fire protection is not just a legal obligation; it's a crucial investment in the well-being of your employees and the longevity of your business. By prioritising fire safety measures, you empower yourself to mitigate risks, control emergencies, and protect lives and livelihoods.



**The Highest Standard Security and Fire Protection  
in North West and All of the UK**

# FIRE SAFETY & SECURITY EVENT AT THE NEC



Reflecting on a fantastic Fire Safety & Security Event at the NEC Birmingham.

The dedication to maintaining the highest standards of fire safety management was evident in the UK's No.1 Fire Safety Event at the NEC in Birmingham.

Events like these push the boundaries of our industry, ensuring safety and security remain at the forefront of business continuity and it's clear that the dedication to fire safety and prevention is stronger than ever.

Our stand was bustling with professionals eager to learn about the latest in fire door training and inspection services.



A heartfelt thank you to everyone who stopped by. Your engagement and commitment to enhancing fire safety standards make events like these incredibly rewarding. Let's continue to build a safer future together.



# FDM Q&A



**Q:** Who is responsible for ensuring the safety and compliance of Fire Doors?

**A:** We all have a crucial role to play.



## FIRE DOOR INSPECTORS, INSTALLERS AND MAINTAINERS

**You play a critical role in keeping people safe. Safety must be at the forefront of every decision you make.**

- ✓ Ensure you and your team are specially trained by an accredited training centre
- ✓ Understand the impact of your work on people's safety
- ✓ Follow correct procedures at all times
- ✓ Only buy certified and accredited products and appropriate door components
- ✓ Utilise the instructions provided by the door manufacturer
- ✓ Ask for help and support when required



## BUILDING ARCHITECTS, CONTRACTORS AND DEVELOPERS

**We understand cost pressures, but safety and compliance must be considered and at the forefront of decision-making.**

- ✓ Check that you are using accredited and certified fire doors and compatible components
- ✓ Ensure fire door installations are carried out by trained fire door professionals



## RETAILERS, MERCHANTS AND SUPPLIERS

**You can play your part in improving the fire door industry by supplying safe and compliant products.**

- ✓ Exclusively sell accredited and certified fire doors, frames and components in accordance with manufacturers tests
- ✓ Train your employees on the importance of fire door safety, and ask them to remind customers that they must have their fire doors installed by a specially trained professional



## 'RESPONSIBLE PERSONS', BUILDING OWNERS AND BUILDING MANAGERS

**You are responsible for ensuring the correct functioning and maintenance of all fire doors in the building you manage.**

- ✓ Regular checks and maintenance of all fire doors (and components) within the building
- ✓ Train all staff on the importance of fire door safety and their role in keeping visitors, residents and staff safe
- ✓ Ensure you or your chosen operatives inspect and maintain doors in accordance with current legislation

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# FIRE DOOR TRAINING WITH FDM

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FDM's courses are designed for practical-minded individuals, blending theory with hands-on experience, stepping away from the conventional written format typically seen in other Fire Door training.



**FIRE DOOR  
MAINTENANCE**  
INSPECTION AND REPAIR