



ABS - AMERICAN BUILDING SUPPLY, INC.

Tech Tips



Taking the Fear Out Of Handicap Openers

In today's business environment it is prudent to expand the services you can provide to your customers. Expanding your services makes you a more valued asset to your customers. Most customers would prefer to deal with one-supplier versus two or three.

Many door shops are reluctant to add handicap openers to their services because they involve wiring and power. The ADA requires handicap openers on most new commercial construction as well as a good deal of rehabs. By adding handicap openers to your services you will become more valuable to your customers. This article will diminish your fear and provide you with the know-how to install basic handicap openers (low energy operators) as well as information about instillation when there is a strike or exit device involved and wireless buttons.

The ease of instillation of the Norton 5700 series opener is virtually plug-and-play. First select whether the opener will be mounted on the push or the pull side of the door. In other words, is the opener going to push or pull the door open? Along with the opener you need a set of "Press to Open" buttons, one for each side of the door. We carry variety of ADA approved buttons from Norton and Camden.

Now for the part so many are unnecessarily intimidated by. Connect the opener to 110VAC and connect two wires to each button. That's all that's required for a basic installation of a handicap opener.

When the opening has a lock or exit device the instillation will require an electronic release like a strike or an electrified exit device. The electronic release is installed in the usual way; however, you must run the power through a relay in the opener. This relay is tripped one-half-second before the opener starts to open the door. This allows the strike to release before the door starts to open.

Wireless buttons are another option, particularly common in retrofit applications. Camden provides a kit that includes the buttons, transmitters, and receiver. A Stealth power supply completes the wireless installation.

All products are stocked at ABS and technical help is just a phone call away. Please feel free to contact us with any questions on this or other installations.