



POSITION STATEMENT SUMMARY

Security/screen doors fitted to sole-occupancy units (SOUs)

Position

Effective 30 August 2024, the following is a position of Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW):

FRNSW does not determine whether security or screen doors can be fitted to the main fire door of a unit. The fitting of any security/screen door to an SOU is a matter to be determined by the appropriate regulatory authority (e.g. Council) or certifier.

FRNSW recommends against the fitting of security or screen doors to SOUs due to the increased likelihood of the main fire door being propped open (e.g. for ventilation airflow), and the fire rating of the door frame being compromised from any modification when fitting any additional door.

Reference must be made to the FRNSW website to ensure this position is current at the time of use, and this position has not been superseded or revoked.

Summary

This position statement supersedes the previous position last updated on 4 July 2018 and any previously published advice from FRNSW on this matter. The position has been revised to clarify considerations and reason why such doors are not recommended.

The position reminds all building proponents that the determination of fitting any security/screen door to any SOU is a matter for the appropriate regulatory authority or certifier.

The position clarifies that security/screen doors are generally not recommended by FRNSW as they can encourage the building occupants to prop the main fire door open (e.g. facilitate airflow or quicker thoroughfare), rendering it ineffective in the event of a fire and may also compromise required fire ratings.

This position statement has been authorised for release by Chief Superintendent Fire Safety, FRNSW.

Contact us

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