

CS CavitySliderS unlock the answer to an urgent airport problem.

The Problem

Auckland International Airport (AIA) caters for an increasingly large number of travellers. Every day, on average, more than 30,000 passengers pass through the gateway, 106 international and 335 domestic flights are processed and 520 tonnes of cargo and mail is flown to and from New Zealand locations, and overseas destinations.

More traffic naturally means more people using the bathrooms and incredibly it was found that one particular toilet had approximately 1000 uses per week.

All this wear and tear had a detrimental affect on the toilet door's standard mechanical lock. Under normal circumstances the lock would have performed well, requiring servicing maybe once every 6 months. However with such high usage, the lock was requiring servicing once a month.

This amounted to a costly and annoying servicing issue - costly for the airport's Building Managers and annoying for passengers requiring a toilet door with a reliable locking mechanism!

In short, the airport needed a toilet door lock that was reliable, easy to use for travellers, fail-safe, and would have low maintenance costs.



◀ A happy traveller prepares to slide the door closed and use the amenities.



▶ Inside view of toilet; heavy duty push button and indicator panel (below paper towel dispenser).

The Solution

With their experience and expertise in sliding door systems, CS FOR DOORS were contacted by Auckland International Airport's Building Managers in June 2002, hoping for a solution.

Having recently completed development of a new product called EasyOpen Magnetic, CS FOR DOORS were keen to find out how it would work in "real life" conditions. The EasyOpen Magnetic cavity slider door system offered the client the following features and benefits:

- ▶ A magnetic lock (hidden in the track) – magnetic locks are much more reliable than mechanical locks and almost never require servicing.
- ▶ An easy to read flashing LED-light indicator panel, a one-push heavy duty button on the inside, voice commands and the use of internationally recognisable symbols all made using the toilet and operating the door a user friendly experience.
- ▶ An emergency access switch was installed on the exterior wall of the toilet. A timer function that automatically unlocks the door after a certain period of time provided an additional safeguard.
- ▶ The 'Out of Service' key-lock and light on the exterior indicator panel made it easy to close the toilet for cleaning.
- ▶ Large 'D' handles were fitted so the door could be easily opened by all users, including people with physical restrictions.



▶ LED indicator panel.

Now, more than five years later (and after 250,000 uses) the toilet door is performing as well as the day it was installed.

Auckland International Airport has recently installed twelve more EasyOpen Magnetic cavity sliders in their gate lounges.

Client:
Architect:
Project Construction Team:
Installation Crew:

Auckland International Airport
Stephenson & Turner
Hawkins Airport Division
CS FOR DOORS

For further information please contact tim@csfordoors.co.nz.