



ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

Against a scenic backdrop at Florida's Westin Cape Coral Resort at Marina Village, the 2024 AAADM Annual Meeting was another great opportunity to gain the latest industry knowledge, network, and further the mission of AAADM.

The first day of the meeting was marked by insightful presentations and updates from the Certification, Government Affairs, Technical Code, and Marketing Committees. These discussions, pivotal to our association's progress, were followed by a sunset dinner at the Tarpon Point marina, offering a perfect setting for reconnecting with old friends and forging new industry connections.

On day two, the board of directors met to discuss the state of the association, membership, financials, future meetings, and more. One highlight was the approval of new associate AAADM member, BBC Bircher America.

A special thank you to the participants for making this another successful AAADM Annual Meeting. We look forward to seeing everyone again in 2025!

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2024 AAADM Annual Meeting

NEXT MEETING INFO

Virtual meeting
Thursday, October 15

An agenda will be sent to the group about one week prior to the meeting.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our second annual certification renewal testing for AAADM Certified Inspectors is complete, and I'm pleased to announce that we saw a 10-point boost in average passing scores over last year. This is a sure sign that our talent pool is taking their responsibility seriously and keeping current on ANSI standards governing automatic doors. It's something the entire industry can feel good about.

Minor changes have been approved to ANSI/BHMA 156.10 (Standard for Power Operated Pedestrian Doors) and ANSI/BHMA 156.27 (Standard for Power and Manual Operated Revolving Pedestrian Doors). These changes are available now and will be incorporated into our upcoming two-day Train the Trainer event. It will be held Aug. 14-15 at ASSA ABLOY headquarters in Monroe, N.C. Let me remind you that only employees of full AAADM members are eligible to become trainers.

In the Fall 2023 issue of this newsletter, we included an article covering the correct interpretation of ANSI/BHMA A156.10-2017, Section 10.1.4, which covers breakout requirements for automatic sliding doors. It's a nuanced topic that is often misunderstood. I've heard through the grapevine that a major automatic door distributor used this article as the basis for refresher training for its own installers. I was gratified to hear this and wanted to share it with all of you. It's another small way AAADM is making a difference for the industry.

Look for another brief explainer article in this issue covering stand clear signage for telescopic sliding doors. [Read more.](#)

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to welcome a new associate member to AAADM, BBC Bircher America!

Dave Timmerman
AAADM President

"Our talent pool is taking their responsibility seriously and keeping current on ANSI standards governing automatic doors."

AAADM COMMITTEE UPDATES

AAADM has formed committees to oversee and develop various projects. Following is a summary of some recent committee activity:



Marketing Committee

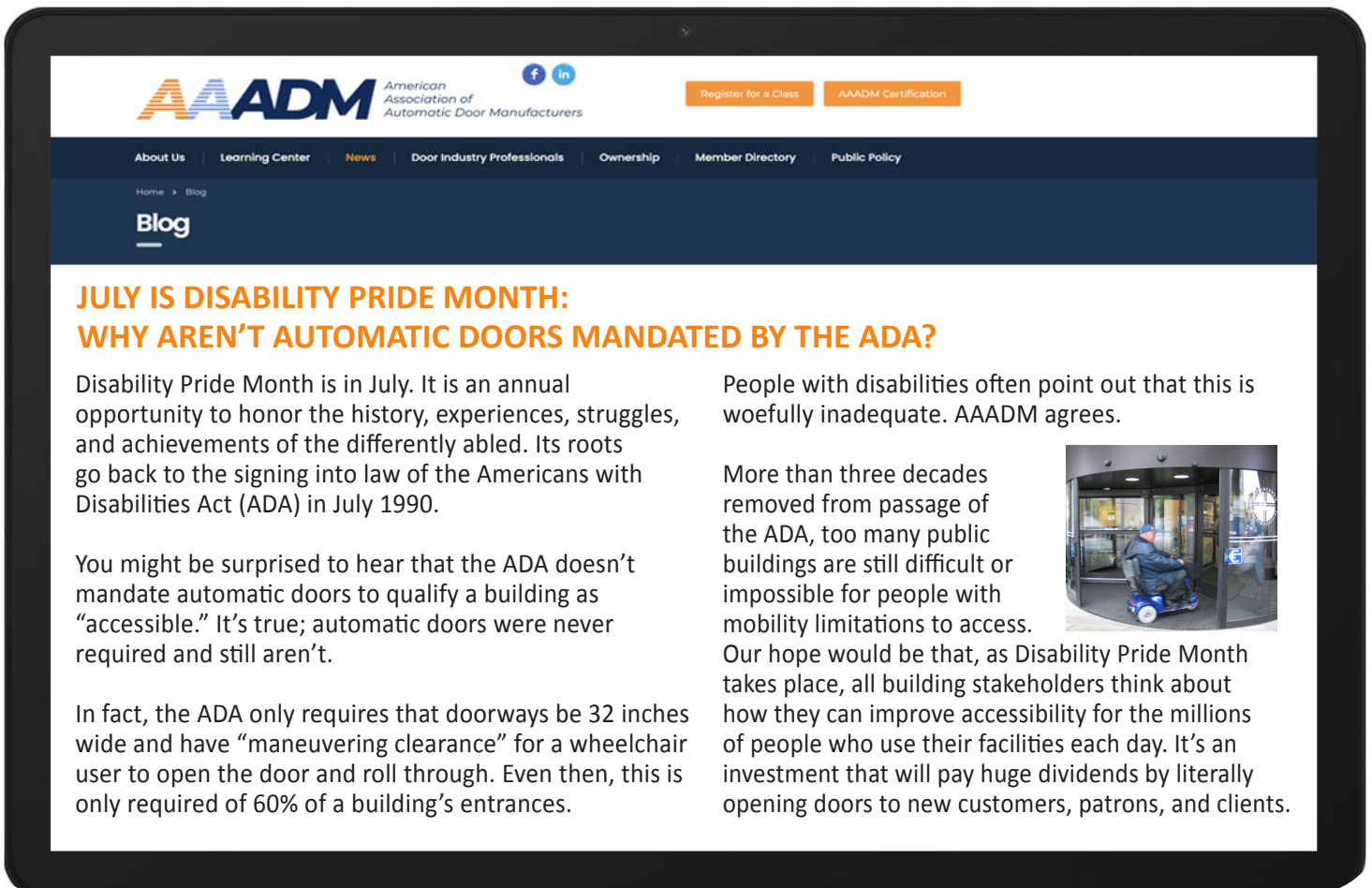
CHAIR: KAREN MASLOW

We have a variety of press releases, blogs, and articles to look forward to in the coming months.

We're excited about two upcoming magazine articles. An article covering how automatic doors can be part of schools' security systems will appear in the September issue of Construction Specifier. Also, an article spotlighting our own government affairs consultant, Kathleen Carroll, is slated to appear in an upcoming issue of Facility Executive. Kathleen broke her ankle on a recent vacation and used a wheelchair and crutches for several weeks. It deepened her appreciation for the role automatic doors can play in providing independence for people who require mobility aids.

June's press release and blog previewed Disability Pride Month, held every July, and the July blog stresses the importance of schools using the summer months to implement facility upgrades, including automatic doors.

We will promote these and other relevant content via our social media channels. As always, we remind members to like and share this content as it amplifies our message and raises awareness about the industry, which helps all of us.



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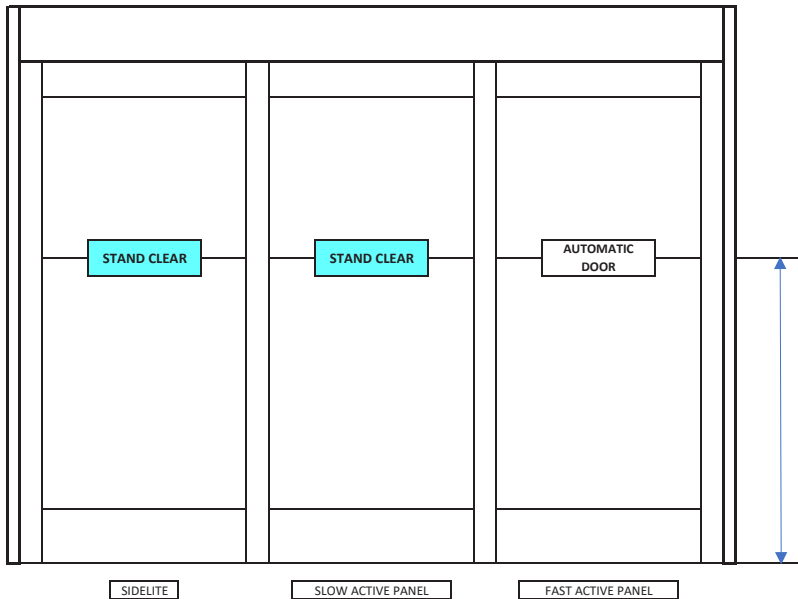
Certification Committee

CHAIR: DAVE TIMMERMAN

GUIDANCE ON SIGNAGE FOR TELESCOPIC SLIDING DOORS

There has been some confusion about signage requirements for telescopic sliding automatic doors. The AUTOMATIC DOOR and STAND CLEAR signage for these doors is vague in ANSI/BHMA A156.10.

TELESCOPIC SLIDING DOOR SIGNAGE RECOMMENDATION



In an effort to bring clarity to the matter, we took a poll of AAADM Certification Committee members. The solution the membership came up with is detailed below. Until such time as the standard is revised to clarify this, AAADM provides the following guidance for AAADM inspectors.

After review by the AAADM Certification Committee, the following signage is recommended for use on telescopic sliding doors:

- Fast active panel, "AUTOMATIC DOOR"
- Slow active panel, "STAND CLEAR" or similar warning
- Sidelite, "STAND CLEAR" or similar warning

"IN EMERGENCY PUSH TO OPEN" signage shall also be applied when applicable.

These signage recommendations will be proposed to BHMA the next time ANSI/BHMA A156.10 is up for review.

Government Affairs Committee

CHAIR: TIM BLANKE



AMTRAK ADA-COMPLIANCE BILL ADVANCES TO SENATE

AMTRAK ADA-Compliance Bill Advances to Senate

A bi-partisan bill that would require Amtrak to report to Congress about efforts to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act has passed the House and now sits in the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

H.R. 6248, the Think Differently Transportation Act, amends the annual Amtrak General and Legislative Report with two new requirements.

First, the bill requires an action plan for bringing Amtrak rail cars and Amtrak-served stations that are not in compliance with the ADA into compliance, as required under a 2020 settlement agreement between Amtrak and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ).

Second, the bill requires a status report on ADA compliance at Amtrak-served stations. For those Amtrak-served stations where Amtrak is not responsible for ADA compliance, it must include in the report information on the responsible party.

In December 2020, Amtrak entered into a settlement agreement with DOJ, wherein Amtrak paid more than \$2 million to approximately 1,500 individuals who experienced disability discrimination while utilizing its services. The settlement agreement required Amtrak to complete designs that would make at least 135 additional existing stations accessible (15 per year), including completing construction of 90 stations and beginning construction of the remaining 45 stations by 2029. It also requires Amtrak to submit a biannual ADA Progress Report to DOJ and make it available to the public.

According to the most recent report, which covered compliance activity through October 31, 2023, Amtrak has reached substantial completion of construction at 185 of 385 stations where Amtrak has either full or partial responsibility.

LEGAL NEWS

By Christina Pannos, Esq., NCCA Legal Counsel

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) IN THE WORKPLACE

Discussion of artificial intelligence has become omnipresent in the media over the last couple of years. It's already begun impacting businesses, making it important to develop a policy for how AI technology should and should not be used in your organization.

It is wise to evaluate any AI tools already in use (or planned for future use) and determine what limits apply or will apply to them. For example, it makes sense to prohibit employees from entering trade secrets or confidential information into an AI system. This requires clearly delineating boundaries and defining what constitutes "confidential information." Before using any output obtained from an AI platform, validate accuracy.

Intellectual property rights and copyrights can also be impacted by AI use. For example, does AI-generated content that is similar in style to existing work trigger intellectual property infringement? Do AI image generators make copyright-protected art? How far do human artists' rights extend? The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office recently deemed that a human creator is necessary for patent protection. Likewise, the U.S. Copyright Office's position is that no copyright protection will be extended for work created by non-humans, including machines.

Generative AI systems are trained by humans. AI tools work by finding and copying patterns in data (called "training") using actual materials created by humans. This original, human-made work is likely protected in one way or another. Such an intersection of law and technologies creates complicated legal issues that require re-examination and policy changes in an uncertain landscape.

Play it safe – make copyright attribution on any AI content.

Technologies are developing faster than the laws that regulate them, so it is important to be vigilant.



“Educate and train managers about new restrictions against accessing personal social media information of employees or job applicants.”

SOCIAL MEDIA ONLINE PRIVACY LAW – COMING YOUR WAY?

Effective March 12, 2024, New York employers are prohibited from accessing personal social media accounts of most employees and job applicants. These accounts are broadly defined as “an account or profile on an electronic medium where users may create, share, and view user-generated content.” Popular social media platforms including Facebook, TikTok, Instagram, and Snapchat fall with the definition. Also covered are “video blogs, podcasts, instant messages, or internet website profiles or locations,” as long as the account or profile “is used by an employee or an applicant exclusively for personal purposes.”

Ten other states have similar laws to protect individuals from employer inquiries into their private social media activities. Employers can't request or require employees or job applicants to: Divulge their username, password, login or any other access information; access their personal social media accounts in presence of employer or prospective employer; or provide copies of videos, photos, communications or any other content from personal social media account.

Employees and job applicants are also protected from employer retaliation for refusing to disclose such information.



Exemptions and exceptions include publicly available and/or voluntarily shared information. Also, access to electronic communication devices paid for by the employer, as long as the employer told the employee that its payment for the device was conditioned on employer's right to access the device.

Note that, even in this case, personal social media account information is still off-limits for the employer.

Employer best practices include reviewing and updating policies and procedures related to access to employees' personal social media accounts. Educate and train managers about new restrictions against accessing personal social media information of employees or job applicants. Instruct and train employees who draft job positions, interview job applicants, and internally investigate allegations of misconduct. Notify in writing all employees who have business-related social media accounts that there is no presumption of privacy in their use of these accounts. Always be in compliance with your company's policies and consult your legal counsel.

These articles are provided solely for informational purposes and do not constitute legal advice. If you have specific questions or concerns about a legal issue, consult your company's legal counsel for guidance.