

Cautions and Concerns When Reusing Existing Frames

The following items should be considered when contemplating the reuse of existing HM frames for specialty doors:

1. Frames **MUST** be of welded corner construction. KD frames are not satisfactory.
2. **NO** certification can be provided for the **ASSEMBLY** as a whole; only for the component(s) we are providing. For bullet-resistant or pressure-resistant product, the lack of proper reinforcing in existing frame would raise issues of personal safety, and compliance with legal, or local building code issues could be a concern.
3. For acoustic product, anticipated performance could be seriously degraded, primarily due to the likelihood that the existing frame is not filled with any sound-retardant material, let alone the grout required for STC ratings of 46 and above.
4. Acoustic test reports can be provided for the door only, which does not cover the complete installed assembly.
5. In the case of acoustic product, the fact that sound seals (which are 1-1/8" thick) must be mounted on top of existing 5/8" high formed stops, will raise the following issues:
 - a. Clear opening size may be decreased below legal limits.
 - b. Seal will interfere with escutcheon trim on some mortise locks.
 - c. For cylindrical locks, use of 3-3/4" backset will be mandatory.
 - d. Stop width may be insufficient to properly attach the seal, which is approx. 2-1/8" wide.
 - e. Frame will not be reinforced for the brackets required to mount certain hardware (such as parallel arm closer shoes, and rim exit strikes) clear of the sound seal.
6. Existing hinge preparations may not be compatible, or even adequate. Most specialty doors are considerably heavier than the standard door which is being replaced. If the STC rating is such that cam-lift hinges (only available as 5" high, with .190" or .250" thick leaves) are required, the frame will have to be reworked.
7. If new door is to have wood veneer, the resulting 1-15/16" thick door will protrude 1/16" from the frame, due to the existing fixed rabbet dimension.
8. We can only provide a physical UL fire-rating label for the door if the existing frame bears an industry-recognized fire label.
9. Field dimensions, as per attached sheet(s), **MUST** be provided. A separate sheet should be used for each opening. Data requested is the minimum required. It is the obligation of the party taking the measurements to provide us with a true and complete picture of the existing conditions. We will not be responsible for problems caused by erroneous measurements and/or missing information.