

**Subject:**  
**DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) System**

**Date:** 31 March 2018

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**To whom it may concern:**

This Swish system was developed after the publication of the New Zealand Standard (NZS 8500-2006) which was issued in November 2006 as an “Advisory to Territorial Authorities and for the guidance of residential pool owners” pending its incorporation into the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987, indicated to be in early in 2007...

**NZS 8500-2006** – Clause 2.3.2 (f) allows for:

Should the doors not be self-closing then a self-latch at 1500mm above the internal floor level shall be provided on every opening door-set. In addition there shall be:

- (ii) An alarm complying with UL2017 capable of detecting unauthorised access from the house into the immediate pool area, that when activated emits a sound of 85dB, to be heard from the house... **Also**

**NZS 8500-2006** - Clause 3.7 allows for:

Child resistant door-sets shall comply with the following requirements:

- (a) Doors shall be fitted with a self-latching device that will operate automatically on the closing of the door and will prevent the door from being re-opened without manually releasing the latch device (c) installed at 1500mm above the internal floor level...
- (b) Every door shall be fitted with a device that will automatically return (**or cause**) the door to the closed and self-latched position when the door is stationary at 150mm open from the closed and latched position...

- a. **Swish can confirm, as at 31 March 2013** DoorMinder Systems installed and approved by local Territorial Authority Exemption Committees as shown, **now total 75 systems**
- b. **Swish can confirm, as at the 31 March 2018** DoorMinder Systems installed and approved by local Territorial Authorities under the Building Act 2004 and the cited standard NZS 8500-2006 total an additional 25 systems.

**Swish DoorMinder System installations** are approved and installed in the following areas

**1. Bi-Fold door systems = 46**

Rodney area	= 5
North Shore area	= 4
Auckland area	= 7
Manukau area	= 3
Other	= 23

**2. Heavy slide door systems = 54**

North Shore area	= 14
Auckland area	= 22
Manukau area	= 5
Other	= 13

**Swish can also confirm**, at Watersafe Forum meetings in July and August 2007, all regional Auckland TA's were involved in demonstrations of the new Swish DoorMinder SelfLatch/Alarm, and following these demonstrations advised their approval of the system as an alternative solution, when:

- self-closing of doors into the pool area, could not be practically achieved and,
- as allowed under FoSPA 1987 via an Exemption Hearing could provide approval using,
- the NZ Standard NZS 8500-2006 to providing an approved 'alternative solution' should the use of this specialised system be required in door-set modification...

**Swish can also confirm**, as at the 31 March 2018 the DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) System has proven to be a great success despite potential clients:

- Having to finance an Exemption Hearing to gain approval under FoSPA 1987
  - Period systems installed Financial years 2007/08 through to 2017/18
  - Period 2017 through to March 2013 = approved and 75 systems installed
  - Period 2014 though to March 2018 = approved and 25 systems installed
- During this 11 year period there were no child drownings in the home pool
- Where Swish system modified the door-sets for pool compliance
- Supported by Coronial evidence supplied for the Determination 2019-001

**Swish also confirm**, as at November 2017 stocks of the concealed Alarm component were almost depleted and because Auckland council were enforcing AS1 clause 4.2.4 of the non-mandatory AS1 schedule advising:

- The alarm must sound at all times when the door leaf or panel is open
- Compared to the NZS 8500-2006 and UL2017 specification
- Which advised the alarm could automatically turn of after sounding for 30 seconds
- DoorMinder automatically turned off after sounding 60 seconds which also found approval at Exemption Hearings
- Swish decided to delay a second manufacturing run of this concealed NZ made alarm component
- Until the non-mandatory provision could be resolved
- In the interim Swish has imported through the NZ agent, a quantity of surface mounted Poolguard DAPT alarms (originally marketed as a gate alarm) which does meet AS1 requirements for a door with pool access, as it sound at all times the door is open
- As would be expected from a gate alarm, as the gate location is part of an exterior boundary and may not be close to the dwelling



**Les J. Hole**  
Director  
Mobile: 0274 77 9000

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Les J. Hole'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

September 2007 – Updated September 2008

## The new Swish Pool Access Safety System

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### DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) System

The new Swish made and unique concealed alarm has been designed to fit into the door panel or leaf frame leading edge, providing a tamper proof alarm that when coupled with either a Swish sliding door or hinged door SelfLatch;

- meeting NZS 8500-2006 by exceeding the requirements of clause 2.3.2(f) while
- meeting the intent of clauses 3.7 and 4.6 (child resistant door-set) provisions
- together with achieving Exemption Committee approval (usually) required by Territorial Authorities under the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987

#### Operational Concept:

The Swish DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) System is concealed in the door leaf or panel frame, and is usually located above the SelfLatch which is installed 1500mm above the internal floor level

When the door leaf or panel is opened (by unlatching the SelfLatch) the alarm sounds at 85dB (within 3 metres) after 7 seconds unless the panel or leaf is immediately closed (and automatically SelfLatched) within the 7 seconds.

Should an adult enter the pool area by releasing the SelfLatch and leaves the door leaf or panel open in excess of 7 seconds, the alarm sounds at 85dB alerting the adult before a child can gain access into the pool area

On the door leaf or panel being closed the alarm stops (if still sounding) and automatically resets to operate the next time the door leaf or panel is opened by releasing the SelfLatch

Should a child (described as 6 years and under) manage to hold the SelfLatch release and move the leaf panel the 50mm it needs to clear the strike, the alarm sounds at 85dB with 7 seconds alerting all adults of the unauthorised pool entry thereby encouraging the adult to take immediate remedial action, locating the offender and causing the door leaf or panel to be immediately closed and automatically SelfLatched



#### Stop Press:

At the WaterSafe Auckland “Your Pool Your Responsibility” forum meeting of the 19 July 2007, senior representatives from the Auckland region Territorial Authorities again viewed a demonstration of the DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) System on a 600mm x 600mm sliding door-set scale model.

#### Result:

The meeting agreed and confirmed the new Swish system meets compliance requirements and the TA’s attending advised they were keenly awaiting installation of the Swish DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) System on door-sets in their respective area’s after confirmation of the advised approval by Exemption Committee.

The meeting was advised by Swish management, DoorMinder (SelfLatch & Alarm) Systems pre-approved installations were scheduled to commence from early September 2007

**Refer: Swish data sheet** – Swish SelfLatch / Swish SelfClose / Swish DoorMinder