

OPEN & SHUT CASES

## Performance breakthrough for moving heavy slide doors in open-wall architecture

Open-wall architecture around the home pool is a popular trend. Big sliding doors are its main feature. Intext Architectural sees the need for smarter door engineering to match.

Open-wall architecture and the home pool make a great combination for indoor-outdoor lifestyle enjoyment, and pool safety compliance – to prevent pool access by unsupervised small children – is a part of the process of achieving it.

Swish safety systems are concealed inside pool-access door profiles, so we often encounter the issue of door performance in installation of our SelfClose™ and SelfLatch™ systems. The better the doors perform, the better our systems work.

Doors are so much a part of everyday life we pay them scant attention – at least, until they don't perform as expected. Something as basic as a door should work with few problems for many years, but

even in new installations, many are destined for early breakdown through under-engineered componentry. Moving parts are where problems make their presence felt first, with inadequate wheelsets and track the cause of many a failure.

As trends towards larger, heavier door panels can only add further challenges, Intext Architectural Systems have seen the need for smarter solutions.

The principle behind their Dynamotion wheel-and-track set is has been proven over time and terrain – multiple-bogy dynamics to spread the load.

The objective is to not only provide longer life for door gear, but to reduce the effort required to move the door panel, manually or otherwise.

Sliding-door performance is rated on push/pull weight, with the effort to move an 80kg slide panel typically between 2kg and 3kg. In one example, Dynamotion reduced the push/pull weight for a 290kg panel from an expected 12kg on standard

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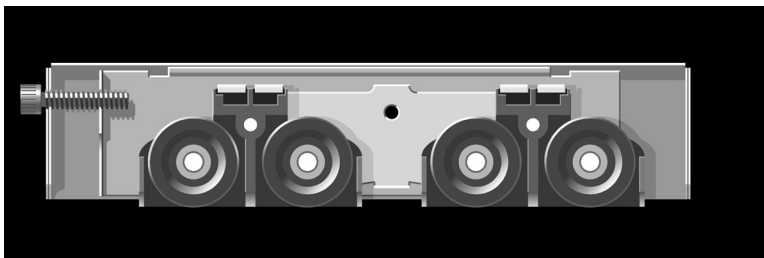


Above: This poolside 3.7mW x 2.7mH slider typifies larger door design trends. The Dynamotion wheel-and-track system moves this huge 290kg panel with minimal effort.

wheels and tracks down to 1.5kg. This indicates that Swish SelfClose™ can now move door loads up to twice the previous limit with half the effort. There are significant benefits for all involved.

For architects and fabricators, it means the ability to specify a fit-for-purpose wheel-and-track system to carry the most challenging door panel loads.

And for home-pool owners, it means less effort for smooth operation of even the heaviest doors, and achievement of pool-safety compliance with a more efficient, more attractive alternative to fencing.



Left: Cutaway schematic of a Dynamotion wheelset. Similar load-sharing dynamics are used for heavy tracked vehicle suspension.

