

FIRE KONTROL™, POCKET COVER DOOR GUIDELINES

Although pocket cover doors are not required, they are commonly used to conceal stacked Cookson Fire Kontrol units. Cookson offers powder coated 12 gauge steel pocket cover doors for openings up to 12' in height, or pocket cover doors can be provided by others. Unless specifically required by the "Authority Having Jurisdiction", pocket cover doors do not have to be fire-rated. The door thickness and covering material is at the discretion of the designer. Many different cover materials have been successfully used for pocket cover doors by others including the following: plastic laminates, wood veneers, vinyl, paint, bronze, and stainless steel. However, if the aggregate thickness of the pocket door exceeds 2", the additional thickness must be added to the calculation of the pocket depth.

Some basic criteria for the successful design of the pocket cover doors are listed below:

1. Doors must be side hinge swinging and must swing at least ninety (90) degrees. When in the open position, pocket doors may not encroach on the 18" clear minimum opening width required for the pocket. Designing "notches" on either side of the pocket to accommodate the cover door thickness will prevent this (see Pocket Cover Door Details).
2. Pocket cover doors must be operable with less than 50 lbs. of lateral force. As the Cookson Fire Kontrol Door is activated, the leading edge will make contact with cover door and push it open. Fifty (50) lbs. is the normal operating force required for egress-style swinging doors and only if the cover door is unusually heavy would special considerations need to be taken.
3. When activated, pocket door should remain in the open position so as not to obstruct the path of the Fire Kontrol door when it is closing.

Cookson recommends specifying either (1) a spring action hinge such as the Stanley # 422100 (with reversed spring-action) to hold the cover door open when activated, or (2) a continuous hinge such as a Stanley #314 or a full mortise hinge like the Stanley # 050490.

1. The reversed spring-action of the Stanley # 422100 butt hinge makes the cover door self-opening rather than self-closing.
2. For aesthetic considerations, a continuous hinge is recommended because it does not protrude beyond the face of the pocket cover door and therefore presents a "hingeless" appearance. A full mortise hinge can also be used. Both the continuous hinge and the full mortise hinges require the use of a bumper, which prevents the pocket door from swinging back into the operating path of the Fire Kontrol door. Cookson pocket cover doors include bumpers as shown on drawing 1 / 6.7.1. The recommended bumper design for Pocket Covers by Others is shown on drawing 1 / 6.7. Note that this bumper adds 1" to the pocket depth requirement.
4. A magnetic catch not to exceed thirty (30) lbs. can be used to keep the pocket cover doors in the closed position when the Cookson Fire Kontrol door is not in use. Positive latches such as hooks or throw bolts are not permitted because they prevent the Cookson Fire Kontrol door from pushing the cover door open during operation.
5. A door frame is not required although one may be used. However, for aesthetic considerations, a "frame-less" design may be preferable because it leaves only two (2) slight reveals at the door edges and provides a less noticeable pocket cover door installation.