

Robson Forensic

Engineers, Architects, Scientists & Fire Investigators

POWERED DOOR

Expert Investigates Pedestrian Knockdown

A woman was entering a medical office building when she was knocked down by the automatic sliding door at the main entrance to the building. The door unexpectedly closed even though she was in the path of its detector eyes. A Robson Forensic architect was retained to determine if the maintenance of the door caused the door to malfunction and injure the woman as she attempted to enter.

The maintenance staff conducted semi-annual visual inspections, but did not perform any testing or disassembly to determine if the mechanisms were functioning and wearing properly or if the sensor patterns were properly adjusted. Our architect was able to determine that, given the arrangement of pedestrian approaches to the door, if the sensors were properly adjusted to anticipate side approaches, the woman could have entered the building safely.

We determined that industry standards, the manufacturer's warnings and instructions, and the standard of care for building maintenance required a level of attention that would have alerted the building owner/manager to the dangerous condition of the door configuration, and would have prevented the door from injuring the woman.

Contact the [Premises Safety](#) team at Robson Forensic for information on how we can aid in your investigation.