

# Top 10 Tips – Securing your business premises

Supplied by: Stanair Industrial Door Services Ltd



Keeping your business premises secure is easy when you know the secrets used by security specialists. Stanair Industrial Door Services has been securing local business premises with industrial doors and shutters since 1974. Kettering Depot Manager Mike Etherington has these 10 tips for businesses:

1. **Make sure your doors are fit for purpose** - There are hundreds of different types of doors you can fit to your building. You need to know what a door will be used for and then find the right balance between security, speed with which it can be opened, and ability to be automated.
2. **Ensure the doors look right** - The correct industrial doors will look great on your building and enhance your brand. Even the highest security shutters should be in keeping with your building and the surrounding area.
3. **Check the doors comply with the law** - There are laws covering access to buildings and other health and safety laws that must be observed, especially with automatic doors.
4. **Ensure the doors are reliable** - Nothing is more disruptive to a business than doors which need unscheduled maintenance. Good quality doors which are fit for purpose will have years of life with regular servicing.
5. **Check for 'value for money' before buying new doors** - Cheapest is rarely the best option for a business. You may get a cheap door, but will it compromise the security of your building? Look for the best balance and overall lifetime value for money.
6. **Can your doors be repaired at low cost** - When your doors do need servicing or repair, are components widely available and reasonably priced? Some complicated doors can have complicated prices.
7. **Pick a supplier that works 24 hours a day** - When doors go wrong they do so at the most inconvenient times. Make sure your supplier will work 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to fix your problem quickly.
8. **Ask your supplier how long they have been in business** - The best way to lengthen the life of a door or shutter is to get the original installer to maintain it. Ask your supplier how long they have been in business, what size they are, and how they can meet your exact needs in the years to come.
9. **Check your supplier's qualifications** - Reliable industrial door and shutter suppliers and service companies will be ISO 9001 certified. They should also be members of the Door and Hardware Federation. Look for additional commitments to long-term development of their staff such as National Training Awards and Investors in People.
10. **See if you can get someone else to pay for your new doors** - Some new doors are considered to be 'green' and could attract interest-free funding from the Carbon Trust. The Trust's investment arm invests up to £3 million a time in clean technology for businesses, where it can be proved that carbon emissions will be reduced, and there will be a financial return. Some products such as rapid action doors are thought to be eligible, as they consume less energy to operate than standard powered doors, and are better at preventing heat from leaving the building.

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