For more than fifty years, the selection of doors in a means of egress has been limited to either traditional side hinged or pivoted swinging doors. Because the building codes limit the maximum size of each individual leaf to only 48 inches, the largest available clear opening has been just less than eight feet. The rules have changed and so have the design alternatives.

Because of substantial improvements in fire protection technology more options are now available. All of the US model building codes currently contain provisions to permit complying sliding doors in selected applications in a means of egress. The Basic National Building Code (BOCA), the NFPA 101, Life Safety Code, and the new International Building Code (IBC), allow complying horizontal sliding doors to be used in any egress application with no restriction on the occupant load being served.

The Won-Door FireGuard system is the only code-accepted alternative to traditional swinging doors in exiting applications in fire rated construction. The Won-Door FireGuard was the first fire door to incorporate integrated microprocessor technology to both supervise electronic components and facilitate operation. With fire ratings of up to 3 hours, virtually unlimited in size and hidden behind pocket doors when not in use, the Won-Door FireGuard affords architects greater freedom in their approach to exiting design. Contact us today for all the details at (800) 453-8494 or visit us on the web at www.wondoor.com.

“The fire rated Won-Door assembly is the most important fire safety breakthrough of the last 30 years.”

John G. “Gus” Degenkolb
Fire Protection Engineer/
Code Consultant