IMPORTANT SAFETY PRECAUTIONS FOR SLIDE GATE OPERATING SYSTEMS

WARNING! TO REDUCE THE RISK OF INJURY OR DEATH, READ AND FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS

REMEMBER . . . SAFETY IS EVERYONE’S BUSINESS

OSCO slide gate operators have been designed in compliance with UL325 specifications. UL325 and the design of gate operators cannot protect against all risks; however, to minimize risk the following safety precautions must be observed.

Automatic gate operators provide convenience and security to users. However, because these machines can produce high levels of force, it is important that all gate operator system designers, installers and end users be aware of the potential hazards associated with improperly designed, installed or maintained systems. Keep in mind that the gate operator is only one component of a total gate operating system. Each component must work in unison with the others to provide the end user with convenience, security and safety.

This brochure includes various safety precautions and warnings for the system designer, installer and end user. The warnings are not exhaustive (due to the many and varied possible applications), but they provide an overview of the importance of proper design, installation and use.

WARNING: OSCO gate operators are only one part of a total operating system. It is the responsibility of the purchaser, designer and installer to ensure that the total system is UL325 and ASTM F2200-02 compliant and proper for its intended use.

SYSTEM DESIGNER SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Familiarize yourself with the INSTALLER precautions and warnings appearing on the following page. Users are relying on your design to provide a quality installation incorporating the use of entrapment detection devices.

2. A separate pedestrian gate is required if pedestrian traffic is expected. Contact edges or photoelectric sensors must be installed to minimize the risk of entrapment. No one should be allowed to cross the path of the moving gate!

3. When designing a system that will be entered from a highway or main thoroughfare, make sure the system is placed far enough away from the road to eliminate traffic backup. To reduce potential traffic hazards, you must take into account distance from the road, gate size, levels of use and gate cycle/speed.

4. Design gate systems so persons cannot reach through the gate to operate any controls. Control stations must be seven (7) feet or more away from the moving gate and operator.

5. The majority of injuries from slide gate operator systems occur with open rollers or ornamental “grill type” gates. The illustrations and descriptive captions found on the following pages provide precautions to help reduce the chance of injuries or fatalities. Familiarize yourself with them when designing the total system.
A  BEFORE INSTALLATION

1. Make sure the operator being installed is proper for the gate’s type, size, frequency of use, and usage class.

2. A freely moving gate will require less force to operate and will enhance the performance of the operator as well as the obstruction sensing devices used with the system. Therefore, you must ensure that the gate has been properly installed and works freely in both directions. Before installation, repair or service any worn or damaged gate hardware.

3. Install the gate operator on the inside of the property and/or fence line. **Never** install an operator on the public side of the gate.

4. **WARNING:** Severe injury or death can result from entrapment by the gate. Contact edges or photoelectric sensors must be installed to prevent entrapment (see pages 3 and 4).

5. If the gate is to close automatically, be sure loop detectors will be installed on both sides of the gate.

6. Certain types of gates can represent greater hazards to pedestrians. Any gate that has exposed, reachable pinch points is a potential hazard. Guard against these hazards! See pages 3 and 4 for information about more common hazards and some required safety precautions.

7. Review the operation of the unit and become familiar with the manual-disconnect mechanism and the obstructing sensing features of the system.

8. Outdoor or easily accessed gate controls should be security type to prohibit unauthorized use.

9. The gate must be installed in a location so that enough clearance is supplied between the gate and adjacent structures, when opening and closing, to reduce the risk of entrapment.

10. A separate pedestrian gate is required if pedestrian traffic is expected. Contact edges or photoelectric sensors must also be installed to minimize the risk of entrapment.

B  DURING INSTALLATION

1. **DISCONNECT POWER** at the control panel before making any electric service power connections.

2. Be aware of all moving parts and avoid close proximity to any pinch points.

3. Know how to operate the manual-disconnect mechanism and instruct the end user in its use. Inform the end user that the disconnect must never be pulled while the gate is in motion. Turn the power switch off before disengaging the operator.

4. Adjust the clutch and/or current sensor to the minimum force required to operate the gate smoothly without slippage or reversing. **Do not** overtighten the clutch or adjust the current sensor too high.

5. Place controls a minimum of seven (7) feet away from the gate so that the user can see the gate and operate controls but cannot touch the gate or gate operator.

6. **Warning signs** must be placed on each side of the gate in high visibility areas to alert individuals of automatic gate operation.

C  AFTER INSTALLATION

1. You are responsible for ensuring that the end user understands the basic operations and safety systems of the unit including the location and operation of the manual disconnect. Remind the end user that the disconnect must never be pulled while the gate is in motion. Turn the power switch off before disengaging the operator.

2. Point out that the safety instructions in this brochure are the responsibility of the end user and then **leave a copy of this brochure and the owner’s manual with the end user!** If additional copies are desired, please contact your local distributor or the factory at 1-800-333-1717. Inform the end user to save these instructions.
The manufacturer of the gate operator mechanism does not know what type of gate you have or what types of automatic systems are installed on your gate. Be sure you’ve been fully instructed on the sequence of operation of your specific gate system.

1. You must read this brochure and keep it for reference. Be sure the instructions contained in this brochure are distributed to all persons authorized to use your gate.

2. **KEEP CLEAR OF THE GATE AREA (FRONT AND BACK) AT ALL TIMES.** Your automatic gate is not for pedestrian use. **DO NOT CROSS THE PATH OF THE MOVING GATE!**

3. Children must never be allowed to play on, near or around a motorized gate.

4. Keep all control devices out of the reach of children.

5. Do not operate your gate system unless you can see the gate when it moves.

6. Do not overtighten the clutch or adjust the current sensor too high to compensate for a damaged gate. The gate should always be maintained to operate as easily as possible.

7. Have the operator tested monthly by a qualified service person. The gate MUST stop and reverse upon contact with a rigid object, or activation of a non-contact or contact device. After any adjustments to the obstruction sensing adjustments on the control board, the operator must be retested. Failure to retest the gate operator properly can increase the risk of injury or death.

8. Your operator is equipped with a manual disconnect. **Never operate the manual disconnect when the gate is in motion. Turn off the power switch before disengaging the operator.** You must receive detailed instructions about the operation of the manual disconnect from your installing dealer. If you haven’t received complete instructions, consult the operator owner’s manual. If your manual is missing or unreadable, contact the factory at 1-800-333-1717.

9. You are responsible for ensuring that the warning signs provided are installed on both sides of your gate in highly visible locations.

10. A separate pedestrian gate is required if pedestrian traffic is expected. Contact edges, photoelectric sensors or similar equipment must be installed to minimize the risk of entrapment (see illustration below and on page 4).

11. If your gate closes automatically, be sure loop detectors are installed on both sides of the gate.

12. **KEEP GATES PROPERLY MAINTAINED!** Read the owner’s manual. If service is required, contact a qualified service person to make repairs to gate and gate operating system. Have the gate operator tested monthly. The gate must stop and reverse upon contact with a rigid object, or activation of a non-contact or contact device. After any adjustments to the obstruction sensing feature on the control board, the operator must be retested. Failure to retest the gate operator properly can increase the risk of injury or death.

13. If your gate has open rollers, be sure roller guards have been installed.

### PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC OR RESIDENTIAL AREA

A separate pedestrian walk gate is required if pedestrian traffic is expected. Contact edges or photoelectric systems are also required when installing automatic gate operators. See the illustration below.
SAFETY WARNINGS FOR SLIDE GATES

SLIDING GATES HAVE THREE (3) POTENTIAL ENTRAPMENT ZONES YOU MUST AVOID. REFER TO THE ILLUSTRATION BELOW.

OPEN-ROLLER GATES
Injuries occur when people get their hands caught between the top of the gate and the roller. This potential pinch point must be guarded. **You must install roller guard covers on all exposed rollers!**

(NOTE: Enclosed tracks are available from various fence suppliers for refitting the gate.)

SLIDE GATE OPENINGS
Injuries occur when people are able to put their arms through openings of a slide gate when it begins to move. All slide gates must be guarded or screened from the bottom of the gate to a minimum of 48 inches above the ground to prevent a 2 1/4 inch sphere from passing through the openings anywhere in the gate, and in that portion of the adjacent fence that the gate covers when the gate is open. This will help minimize access through openings when the gate travels (see illustration below). Picket gates which have spacings less than 2 1/4 inches apart to the minimum height requirement are also acceptable.

Special Precautions for Slide Gate Systems
REFER TO ASTM F2200-02

**OPEN ROLLER GATES**
Roller guards must be installed on all exposed rollers!
Injuries occur when people get their hands caught between the top of the gate and the roller. This potential pinch point must be guarded.

**ENTRAPMENT ZONES**
Pedestrians must stay clear of the gate path and any area where gate motion is close to stationary objects. Entrapment zones are shown in the illustration.

**PINCH HAZARD**
In open-roller gates, hands can get caught between the top of the gate and the roller, resulting in injury. Install covers to guard these pinch points.

**Always cover open rollers**
**Rollers protected with cover guards**