



## NEW CERTIFICATION WEBSITE COMING SOON

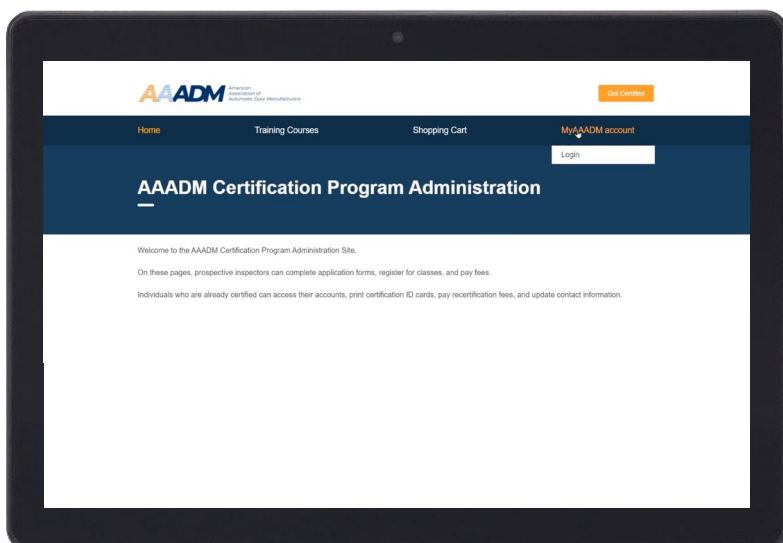
For members who are certified or who want to become certified in the future, the Certification Committee has been working over the past year to improve the online portal for inspector classes and certifications. We're creating a new, dedicated certification program scheduling website.

Development is complete and we're in the testing phase. Once complete, we'll be ready to launch. In the next month or two, members should receive a welcome email with their username and login credentials to access the new site.

A note to our trainers: When the results of these final tests are complete, we will schedule a separate call with you to walk through the process.

The new site is highly intuitive and we are excited to launch. Look for more information in the coming weeks.

Below is a screen-by-screen preview of how to use the new site.



### LANDING PAGE

This is the homepage for this new site, [myaaadm.com](http://myaaadm.com). If you're already certified, you'll go to the "My AAADM Account" tab.

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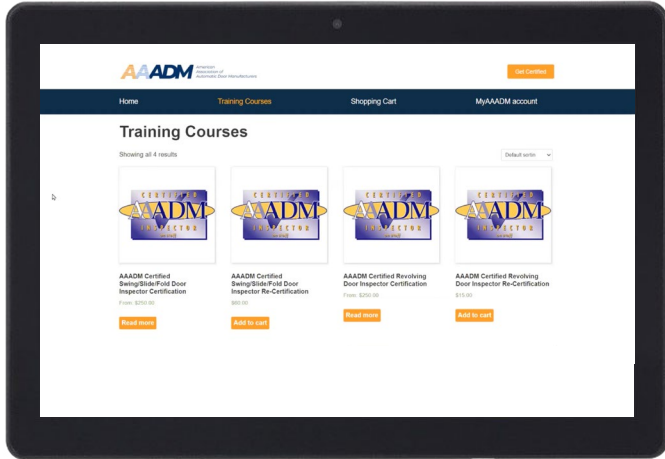
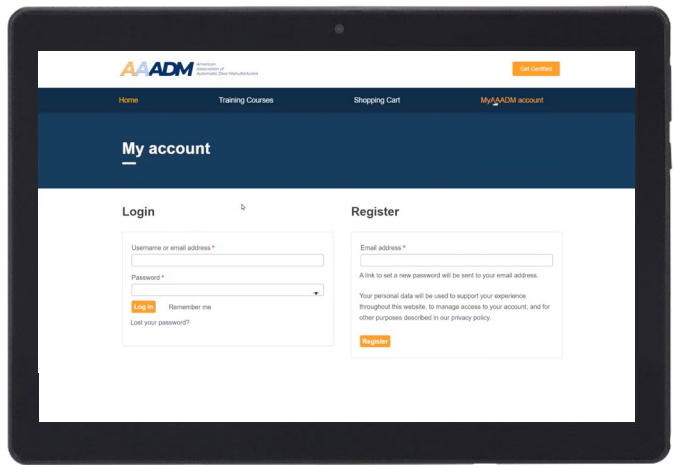
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## LOGIN

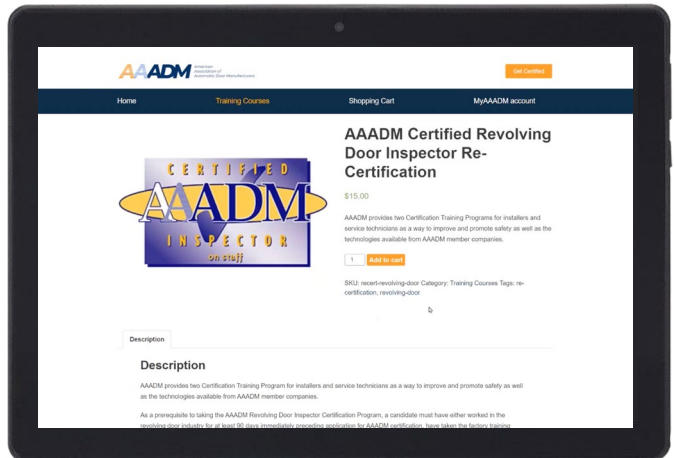
This is where you will log in. Your login information (username and password) will have been sent to you via email. If you have forgotten either, you can request a new one.

Once logged in, you can begin the registration process. You can also administer your personal information and print out new cards.



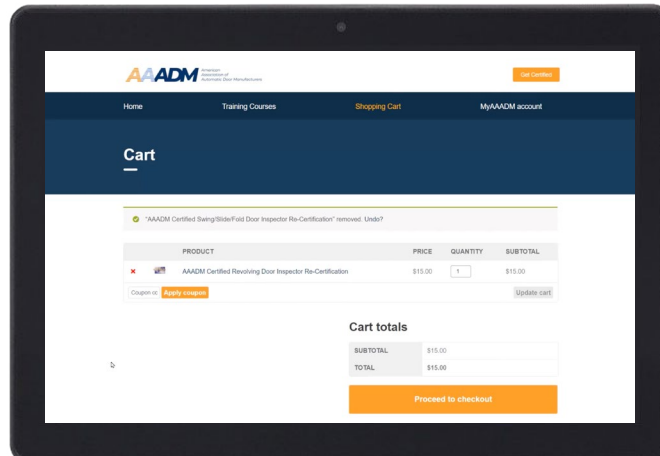
## REGISTER

To register for classes to get certified, navigate to the "Training Courses" tab. You will see the four options currently available, two each for the two programs, Certified Revolving Door Inspection and Certified Swing/Fold/Slide Inspection. For both first-timers and re-certifications, the program will result in an annual certification.



## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

When you click on any of the options, there is a brief description, including any necessary prerequisites, and the scheduling calendar. You will be able to schedule your classes, fill out the necessary forms, and add the class to your shopping cart.



## CHECKING OUT

When it's time to check out, click on the "Shopping Cart" tab and follow the prompts.

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## New Initiatives in the 'New Normal'

I'm pleased to see that business is starting to return to normal after two years of the global pandemic, although it seems normalcy is a relative term these days! You can be assured that AAADM is engaged in a number of projects intended to improve accessibility and promote the safe use of automatic pedestrian doors. Just take a look through this newsletter to learn about some of the highlights. I also encourage you to visit our website, [www.aaadm.com](http://www.aaadm.com), where you will find a wealth of information about automatic doors and related accessibility issues.

Since its founding in 1994, AAADM has matured and honed its mission. For example, we have trained more than 40,000 individuals as certified inspectors of automatic pedestrian door installations. In May, we mark the next step in our evolution by holding our annual meeting bringing together not only all member companies but also all AAADM committees. This will aid in our collaboration and program development.

An area of emphasis in 2022 is our Government Affairs Committee. This collective will shine a light on the work being done in legislatures at the state level to improve accessibility for all. We are developing resources to assist you in taking part in this work, too. The committee has developed educational materials to help distributors and others take advantage of and support programs in their states.

This new focus has not displaced the important body of work AAADM has traditionally pursued; rather, it is an addition that aligns well with the training and certification programs that have formed our core for more than 25 years.

Thank you for your support and for being a part of an industry that makes life better for everyone.

All the best to you all,

Len Pursell  
AAADM President



*"An area of emphasis in 2022 is our Government Affairs Committee. This collective will shine a light on the work being done in legislatures at the state level to improve accessibility for all."*

# AAADM COMMITTEE UPDATES

AAADM has formed committees to oversee and develop various projects. Following is a summary of some recent committee activity:



## Government Affairs Committee

CHAIR: TIM BLANKE

### **New grants/tax credits article available**

Because automatic doors can help fulfill the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), they are eligible for certain grants and tax credits. To help navigate this issue, we've written an article about some of the government incentives available to help offset the costs of physical access modifications to existing buildings. You can read the full article on the AAADM website [here](#). It includes quick details on each method building owners can use to get money back for doing the right thing. AAADM members can encourage customers to apply for these grants and credits. In some cases, organizations might not be aware of their availability.

### **Updates to Public Policy section of AAADM.com**

Members will soon be able to take legislative action via the AAADM website, as government affairs and the marketing committee have collaborated to enhance the Public Policy section of the site. Members can visit this section to learn about pending legislative action at the federal and state levels, and also find their legislative contacts to express their opinions. The section will also house a form letter to assist with voicing their concerns. The Public Policy section can be found [here](#). Check back often for updates!

## Certification Committee

CHAIR: DAVE TIMMERMAN

The Certification Committee remains active as it maintains and expands AAADM's training and certification programs.

### **Training sessions**

A session to educate new trainers and refresh existing trainer skills took place in November. In all, 45 trainers reviewed the course for certified inspectors of automatic swinging, sliding, and folding doors. We prepared new training manuals to conform to the latest versions of the standards that govern the program.

Revolving door trainers meet in Indianapolis in late April for their training session.

### **Online certification registration**

We have developed the online database and registration system. Payment and registration functions have been tested successfully. The final test needed, related to scheduling and administration of classes, should be complete in the next two months. All inspectors will be notified and given credentials to access the site when the program launches. See the complete article on page 1 of this issue of the newsletter for more details.

### **New safety check animations**

We're developing a new series of daily safety check animations. The first, for sliding doors, is complete. We will produce new daily safety check labels with QR codes that make it easy for users to link to the animations on their mobile devices. We will provide these new labels to all inspectors when they order labels later this year.

# AAADM COMMITTEE UPDATES

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## Technical/Code Committee

CHAIR: JEFF DUNHAM

### Maintenance and monitoring of the code cycle

For the Technical/Code Committee, 2021 and 2022 are what we call maintenance and monitoring years. After our success in incorporating mandatory use of automatic pedestrian doors in certain applications, we are defending the new provision and working with other organizations to tweak code language to support our goal of enhanced accessibility. We're pleased to report that there have been no major challenges or revisions relevant to our provisions that have been proposed this code cycle.

### New technical bulletins on the way

The committee is reviewing the [educational technical bulletins](#) that appear on the AAADM website, and we are considering additional topics that might benefit the industry and end users of industry products. If you have suggestions for topics, please submit them to us at [aaadm@aaadm.com](mailto:aaadm@aaadm.com).



## Marketing Committee

CHAIR: KAREN MASLOW

### New content can spur engagement

Over a year ago, the marketing committee made a commitment to provide you with consistent and meaningful content. We hope you've been noticing new content we've shared through our various media outlets including [website](#) updates, monthly [blogs](#) and regular social media posts.

Please be sure to follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) for regular updates. We encourage you to share our posts to help spread awareness about the benefits of automatic doors.

Highlights of the past 12 months have included the benefits of automatic doors in a newly no-touch world, the importance of hiring a certified AAADM technician, and why automatic doors are ideal for the restaurant industry. We also dedicated a series of engaging posts and other content related to National Automatic Door Day, celebrated annually on March 19th.

New [press releases](#) began distribution early this year. You can find them on our website under News. We are pleased that some of our own AAADM members are currently being interviewed for articles to be used in industry media publications to be released later this year.

In the coming months, you will see our focus expand to highlight the work of our government affairs committee. From ways to apply for funding to contacting your legislator on accessibility bills, there is no shortage of ways that you, and the customers we serve, can get involved. Look for more in the coming months from [AAADM](#).



# LEGAL NEWS

By Nathan J. Breen, Esq., AAADM Legal Counsel

## COVID Keeps Coming

Legal News as We Reemerge from the Global Pandemic

### CALIFORNIA EMPLOYERS CAN BE SUED BY THIRD PARTIES WHO CATCH COVID-19 FROM AN EMPLOYEE

A California appellate court has ruled that a wrongful death suit on behalf of a non-employee who allegedly contracted COVID-19 from an employee may proceed. According to the complaint, a group of employees allegedly became infected with COVID-19 in a See's Candies factory due to a lack of social distancing, and one of those employees passed the virus to her non-employee spouse. The employee later recovered, but the non-employee spouse died. See's Candies argued that the case was preempted under the "derivative injury doctrine," which generally prevents lawsuits by third parties for injuries that are "collateral to or derivative of" injuries covered by California's Workers' Compensation Act. The court rejected that argument, ruling that third parties who suffer injuries "logically and legally independent of any employee's injuries" as a result of a company's negligence have not lost their right to sue. Unlike typical derivative claims such as loss of companionship or trauma caused by observing an employee's suffering, the suit here was limited to damages arising from the non-employee spouse's death. While it may be causally related to the employee's original injury, it was not derivative of that injury and consequently was not preempted, the court said.

*While this case was permitted to proceed, suits like this figure to be an uphill battle given difficult issues of causation around COVID-19 infection. Also, since the Omicron variant is less lethal than prior iterations of the disease, damages arising from mild illness may not be enough to incentivize such litigation.*

### DOL CITES INSURANCE AGENCY FOR EXPOSING WORKERS TO COVID-19

The U.S. Department of Labor has cited an El Paso insurance agency for ignoring safety requirements and allowing employees displaying coronavirus symptoms to work at the same Denver location as an employee who died of COVID-19. The Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration investigated the Fred Loya Insurance Agency and found that it didn't safely distance employees, failed to implement a health and safety plan, and allowed symptomatic employees to remain on its site.

*The insurance agency faces \$23,406 in proposed penalties.*

### EEOC OFFERS GUIDANCE AS TO COVID-19 AS A DISABILITY

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission ("EEOC") is offering employers new guidance as to when, and under what circumstances, COVID-19 can be considered a disability under federal anti-discrimination laws. The highlights from "What You Should Know About COVID-19 and the ADA, the Rehabilitation Act, and Other EEO Laws" include:

- In some cases, an applicant's or employee's COVID-19 diagnosis may cause impairments that are themselves disabilities under the ADA, regardless of whether the initial case of COVID-19 itself constituted an actual disability.

*Continued on the next page.*



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Third parties who suffer injuries "logically and legally independent of any employee's injuries" as a result of a company's negligence have not lost their right to sue.

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- An applicant or employee whose COVID-19 case presents mild symptoms that resolve in a few weeks—with no other consequences—will not have an ADA disability that could make someone eligible to receive a reasonable accommodation.
- Applicants or employees with disabilities are not automatically entitled to reasonable accommodations under the ADA. They are entitled to a reasonable accommodation when their disability requires it and the accommodation is not an undue hardship for the employer. Employers can choose to do more than the ADA requires.
- An employer risks violating the ADA if it relies on myths, fears or stereotypes about a condition and prevents an employee's return to work once the employee is no longer infectious and, therefore, medically able to return without posing a direct threat to others.

*Employers are well advised to take heed of this guidance as ADA litigation can result in injunctive relief in addition to an award of damages and attorneys' fees.*

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## PHISHING, VISHING, AND SMISHING (OH, MY!)

You've probably heard of phishing, a scam that uses email messages to lure victims into divulging sensitive information or opening a link that allows malware to infiltrate their device. Companies have learned how to combat phishing by training employees to recognize such scam attempts and report them as phishing to protect their organizations.

"Vishing," is another tactic used by scammers that, while less familiar, is no less invasive and dangerous. The term "vishing" comes from the combination of the words "voice" and "phishing," and its perpetrators attempt to trick victims into providing personal information over the phone. Vishing scams convince victims to provide passwords, social security numbers, bank account information and other personal data to callers pretending to represent an organization that requires sensitive information, such as a governmental authority or the victim's financial institution or utility company. To appear as if they are legitimate, vishing scammers use local area codes and text message prompts to cover their tracks. Oftentimes a vishing attempt will try to persuade the victim to act quickly in response to a (falsely) urgent situation such as a lost child, medical emergency, or once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Closely related to vishing is "smishing," which follows a similar theme and approach to vishing strategies but via text message rather than over the phone. These text messages might include a link to click, similar to a phishing attempt. Smishing attempts may identify victims by name or may appear otherwise familiar to a victim, leading them to mistakenly trust the source of the message.

To combat these scams:

- Confirm the caller's identity before returning a call to an unidentified number, including those from a local area code. When in doubt, contact the institution directly that appears to be making the call through verified public contact information.
- Let unknown numbers that appear in call waiting go to voicemail and return the call if appropriate.
- Do not speak or push numbers to automated calls, as that information can provide the personal information needed to infiltrate systems.
- Register with the federal Do Not Call Registry, as legitimate companies generally avoid calling numbers on this list.

*These articles are provided solely for informational purposes and do not constitute legal advice. If you have specific questions or concerns about a legal issue, consult your company's legal counsel for guidance.*