



Until 1 January 2017, the safety of young children around swimming pools and some other pools was subject to the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987. The Building (Pools) Amendment Act 2016, which passed in October 2016, revoked the Fencing of Swimming Pools Act 1987 and incorporated child safety provisions for residential swimming pools into the Building Act 2004.

It also added a new clause to the Building Code: **Clause F9 - Means of Restricting Access to Residential Pools.**

*The entire - NZ Building Code- Clause F9 – Means of Restricting Access to Residential Pools - can be viewed on the Rotorua Lakes Council website.*

## **F9/AS1 Section 4.2 - Doors in the Building Wall**

4.2.1. Doors in a building wall that provide access into the immediate pool area shall be single leaf doors that are not more than 1000mm in width. These doors shall be side hinged or sliding.

4.2.2. Doors in a building wall providing access into the immediate pool area shall have:

- a) Either a self-closing device or an audible alarm, and
- b) A self-latching device that automatically operates on the closing of the door and that must be released manually, and
- c) The release for the latching device located not less than 1500mm above the inside floor, and
- d) A sign, which shall be:
  - i) fixed adjacent to the inside door handle at a height between 1200mm and 1500mm stating; "SWIMMING POOL CLOSE THE DOOR"
  - ii) Composed of black letters of minimum height 5mm complying with Paragraphs 2.2 and 3.2.2 of F8/AS1.

4.2.3. For hinged doors that open towards the pool, a self-closing device shall return the door to the closed position when the door is stationary. For all other doors, a self-closing device shall return the door to the closed and latched position when the door is stationary and 150mm or further from the closed and latched position.

4.2.4. A door alarm shall:

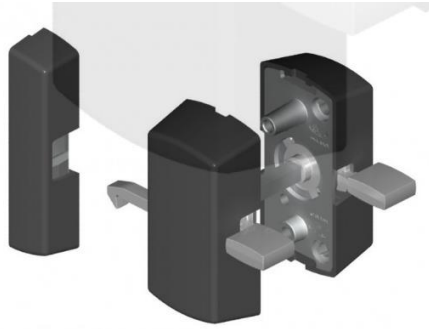
- a) Produce an alarm tone of 75dBAL when measured at a distance of 3000mm that commences 7 seconds after the door's self-latching device is released, and
- b) Automatically return to a state of readiness when the door is closed and latched, and
- c) Have a low battery charge warning that may be visual or audible

4.2.5. Door alarms may be provided with a deactivation switch placed not less than 1500mm above the floor level that silences the alarm for not more than 15 seconds.

There is a variety of compliant safety devices available on the market for your door. Please find attached some of the options that can be found at most large hardware stores and Key Accessories on Eruera Street, Rotorua.

(Disclaimer: Rotorua Lakes Council does not promote the preference of any hardware supplier, and the images are an example of available products only).

**SELF-LATCHING DEVICE FOR SLIDING DOORS**



**SINGLE LEAF DOORS - SELF CLOSER**



**SINGLE LEAF DOORS - LATCHING DEVICES**



*NB: Doors will usually require two-handed operation, one to release the high-level latch and the other to operate the door handle lock set*

**AUDIBLE ALARM**

