

The RITE Door[®] and Kaiser Permanente: High Design with the Patient In Mind

The RITE Door meets the most stringent fire code requirements and offers tremendous savings in installation expenses with its integrated design; while its low profile and vast array of hardware finishes enable it to adapt beautifully to this inviting, uplifting and friendly décor.



History

Adams Rite is a manufacturer of architectural door hardware. Industry practice is for specifiers to spec door hardware and for contractors to finish door installation on commercial construction sites. Commercial doors are one of the more complex and problematic building products because they consist of dozens of component parts. If the correct parts are not ordered and assembled properly, a new building will not meet code requirements and cannot open for business.

Adams Rite launched a new product, The RITE Door[®]; a factory assembled integrated door system that comes to the construction site with pre-installed hardware. This ensures that doors are assembled and adjusted properly for perfect operation when installed – saving installation time while eliminating an unpredictable and costly assembly process. Adams Rite also pretests each door component and applies certification labels covering the entire assembly to facilitate building and fire code inspections.



Coming Full Circle

The product was first launched as a solution for health care facility applications. With its low profile pushbars and unobtrusive lines, The RITE Door met with reasonable success as a better door solution for hospitals, nursing homes and managed care facilities, blending in with almost any décor. At that time, the nature of health care building design emphasized functionality rather than making an aesthetically-pleasing design statement. But, this is no longer the case with today's sophisticated hospital architecture and décor.



Kaiser Permanente leads the industry in eco-friendly, patient focused hospitals and medical offices. Building some of the most innovative health facilities in the nation, Kaiser's new "Template" infrastructures offer efficient floor plans and environmentally sensitive material.

Their Alton Parkway Sand Canyon complex is a 30-acre campus that reflects the ongoing mission of this forward thinking HMO giant. A 150-bed hospital located just off two of the nation's busiest highways and in one of the fastest growing cities in the country, The Kaiser Sand Canyon complex includes a three story hospital, a central plant, two nursing towers and 147,000 square feet of medical offices – all of which feature The RITE Door.

High Design with the Patient in Mind

The Sand Canyon Complex is called a "Template" hospital because it incorporates the same design elements that will be applied to other Kaiser hospitals in the next five years.



The design is intended to reduce costs while incorporating ways to improve the health and comfort of members and staff. All rooms are private and have large windows with scenic views. Waiting rooms are set up as "family pods" which cluster chairs and sofas in groups to create privacy.

Perhaps the most important design element is the open feel of the hospital created by large windows which allow substantial sunlight to filter in – proven to create a peaceful, soothing environment. Creative lighting and a warm color palette establish a comfortable transition from corridors, to rooms, to waiting areas. Utilizing a wide variety of colors on walls and The RITE Door transforms this medical facility to a welcoming environment.

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