



# PRODUCT BULLETIN

## CORPORATE HEAD OFFICE & DESIGN GALLERY

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Subject: Composite edge Door Slabs - Material Update & Edge Protector Guidance

Durabuilt Windows & Doors remains committed to delivering high-quality products and continuously improving through collaboration with our customers and suppliers.

In 2022, we transitioned from wooden edge stiles to Therma-Tru®'s composite edge technology. This change was made at no additional cost and brought several benefits, including resistance to moisture, humidity, mold, insects, and rot. The beveled edge geometry also enhanced sealing performance against weatherstripping.

However, by early 2023, we began receiving reports of edge damage, particularly around the side bore area during lockset hardware installation. These damages were primarily observed during the construction phase and were more prevalent in colder temperatures, where composite materials tend to become brittle. While some incidents were due to installer error or lack of reinforcement screws, the root cause was identified as the density and brittleness of the composite material.

### Material Improvement & Performance Update

After extensive collaboration with Therma-Tru®, a redesigned composite edge stile was introduced in January 2025. This new formulation increased hardness by 300x, significantly improving durability and resistance to cracking. Since implementation, we've seen a sharp decline in damage reports.

### Steel Edge Protector – Updated Guidance

To support customers during the transition, we introduced a stainless steel slab edge protector (P/N: D-MSC-SERV-SLB-PROT). This part was designed specifically for our slab edge profile and helped reinforce or conceal side bore damage. While it served as a valuable interim solution, it **is no longer required** with the new composite material.

We will **continue to stock** this part for customers who prefer it as a precautionary measure or aesthetic cover-up. However, its use should now be considered optional, not mandatory.

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Example of stainless-steel slab edge protector