

# Keeping Doors Open and Shut



For those lucky readers like me who have full-time venue gigs, here's some advice for pesky doors. Every venue has doors that need to be kept open during performances or other times for various reasons; many times these doors are fire doors. The fire department hates to see fire doors wedged open with a wooden doorstop, plus doorstops have a habit of damaging doors as well as disappearing when needed. At Newmarket Theatre, we solved our door problem with the help of the fire department.

For doors that need to be held open on a regular basis, we have now installed chains fitted with a hook to latch onto the door handle. One of the links in the chain is a low-temp (135° F, 57.22° C) UL Listed fusible link that will melt or "break away" in the heat of a fire. The break-away action of the link will allow the door to close. Because the chains with hooks and fusible links are fixed to the wall, they don't wander off, and are always there when needed. The fusible link is replaceable and will safely hold a load of at least 50 pounds. The links are

available from various manufacturers in several different load ratings as well as different break-away temperatures. The links that we used came from Globe Technologies Corporation ([www.globetechnologies.com](http://www.globetechnologies.com)). A local fire protection equipment company should also be able to supply you with the needed links.

Our deal with the local fire department is that if a fire-rated door needs to be held open during a performance or for other reasons, someone (stagehand, usher, etc.) will be assigned to close that door in the event of a fire alarm. Doors are also closed when the building is dark. The fusible link is a failsafe if the door cannot be closed in an emergency, or it is accidentally left open, ensuring it will close on its own. Check with your local fire department to see if this solution will work for you.

Charles R. Kaiser  
Newmarket Theatre  
Newmarket, ON, Canada

## IN THE TRENCHES

# Jedd Taub



Jedd Taub  
Lighting Director/Designer  
JeddLights  
New York, NY  
[jtld1966@aol.com](mailto:jtld1966@aol.com)

**Quote:** Oh, trust me, they will go home humming the lights!

**Services Provided:** Lighting direction, design, tech

**Clients:** Story of the Year, My Chemical Romance, Lost Prophets, P.O.D., Michelle Branch

**Personal Info:** I have been a lighting director/designer for the past eight years. I am my own tech and basically my passion is putting on the show—there is no better satisfaction than creating the perfect mood.

**Hobbies:** Tattoos, Reading

**Equipment:** Avolites Pearl 2004, Martin fixtures

**Don't Leave Home Without:** My sanity, iPod, laptop.

## ProMover 250 Spot



## METEOR-KLS INC.

1-734-425-6620

1-256-461-8000

[kls@kls-usa.com](mailto:kls@kls-usa.com)

[sales@meteor-usa.com](mailto:sales@meteor-usa.com)