LatchGuard™

Add an additional layer of security with an optional upgrade to the Wedge®, the Industry Leading, Tamper Resistant Swinging Door Locking System

OVERVIEW

The LatchGuard is a patent-pending enhancement available on the Willo Wedge locking platform. Designed specifically for detention environments, the LatchGuard protects the lock functionality and eliminates a widespread method inmates use to defeat traditional Grade 1, Max Security locks.



Traditional lock with retracted latch bolt, with stuffing gap exposed

THE PROBLEM

In conventional wide jamb-mounted locks, depressing the latch bolt creates a gap between the latch bolt and guide. This “stuffing gap” is often exploited by residents using items such as tape, mirror fragments, paper, or other items to obstruct the latch bolt operation. Once debris enters the lock housing, internal components, such as the deadlock mechanism, can be compromised, resulting in lock failure and unsecured doors

Without the LatchGuard, you heighten the risk that the:

- Latch bolt is unable to fully extend into the strike
- Doors may remain unsecured after closing
- Deadlock lever obstruction disables deadlocking feature
- Internal components fail due to foreign material intrusion



Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

Figure 1 shows a typical high-security, jamb-mounted electromechanical lock with a retracted latch bolt, exposing the stuffing gap. Figures 2 and 3 shows debris found in unprotected locks from a correctional facility. Debris was inserted through the stuffing gap and other openings around the latch bolt and roller bolt. This material can disrupt normal operation of the lock, preventing dead locking or creating other operational issues.

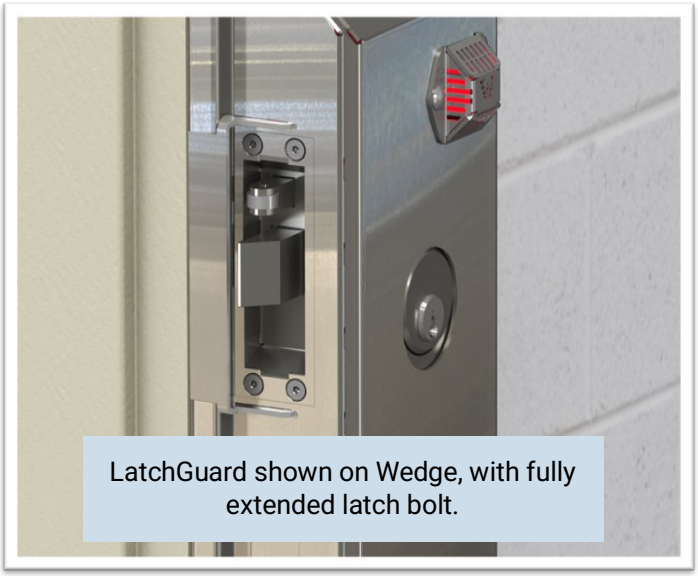
©2025 Willo Products Company, LLC. All rights reserved. Willo products are patented or patent pending. 06/25 B-1

LatchGuard™

Add an additional layer of security with an optional upgrade to the Wedge®, the Industry Leading, Tamper Resistant Swinging Door Locking System

THE SOLUTION

The patent-pending LatchGuard eliminates the stuffing gap when the latch bolt is fully retracted, preventing any access into the lock housing. This protective barrier significantly reduces the risk of tampering and internal damage



LatchGuard shown on Wedge, with fully extended latch bolt.



Wedge with LatchGuard, showing retracted latch bolt, eliminating the stuffing gap.

HOW IT WORKS

The LatchGuard isn't just another lock. It is a proprietary, patent-pending innovation that is exclusive to Willo Products and the Wedge locking system platform. The LatchGuard was designed to restrict entry points for foreign material and protect the lock. The LatchGuard does this with:

- Enhanced Lock Components: Latch and roller bolts are extended and enclosed within a recessed cup—maintaining the same footprint as the Wedge system without intruding into the walkway.
- Floating Baffle Design: A precision-engineered baffle is added between the lock and Wedge body to tighten clearances and block tampering through gaps around the latch components.

SUMMARY

By preventing foreign materials from being stuffed into the lock body, LatchGuard protects lock performance and keeps cells secure. It significantly reduces the need for costly maintenance and locksmith intervention, addressing a major vulnerability found in traditional jamb-mounted electromechanical locks.

With the LatchGuard from Willo, you can:

- Prevent stuffing of debris into latch mechanism
- Protect the lock, maintain functional integrity
- Enhance door security and staff safety
- Reduce maintenance and lock failure incidents

©2025 Willo Products Company, LLC. All rights reserved. Willo products are patented or patent pending. 06/25 B-1