Aircraft Door Closure Inspection

For every departure, and for all aircraft types, the person closing the cabin door must perform a visual inspection of the aircraft door to ensure the door has closed and latched properly. Recently, two 737NG aircraft were forced to return to the airport when an improperly closed cabin door did not allow the aircraft to pressurize.

After closing the cabin door, the gate agent must visually inspect the aircraft door, paying close attention to the upper and lower thirds of the door.

- The door must be flush with the airframe, and the door handle must be flush with the surface of the door.
- **Note: A flush door handle alone does not mean the door is properly closed.**

If after inspection, the door does not appear closed, then the door must be reopened.

- Notify the crew that you will be reopening the door.
- Do not open the door until the crew indicates the door has been disarmed.
- Open the door fully.
- Re-close the door. Close the door quickly, but do not force the door closed.
- If the door has not closed properly, call aircraft maintenance.

Example of 737 Door – Improperly Closed

Inspect:
This door is not closed properly.
The upper corners of the doors are not flush with the door frame, even though the door handle is flush with the door.