

# Archie Hardware– Connecting people and spaces



In the beautiful country town of Foshan, Guangdong China, a manufacturing giant is developing the latest security products to cater for global demand. Archie Hardware's portfolio clients include the Hilton Hotel Group, Howard Johnson Hotel Group, Le Meridien Hotel Group (Singapore), Shanghai F1 Track and Shanghai World Expo Village.

Archie Hardware was initially founded in the spring of “opening up” in southern China in 1990, but now the company has plans to bring the Archie brand to Australia, with a mission to connect people and spaces, according to Archie Hardware Australia's General Manager, Andries Botha.

“We started with a workshop of 30 square metres, and produced mainly zinc-alloy doors and windows accessories. Over the last 30 years, Archie Hardware has gradually expanded its product lines to magnetic door holders, door guards, door stoppers, door locks, bathroom accessories, digital lock range and most recently smart home systems called ‘Hi-System’ (Home Intelligent System),” Mr Botha said.

“Today, Archie is one of the largest [door hardware manufacturers](#) in the world, exporting to more than 50 countries worldwide. Our annual production capacity is more than eight million units in both door locks and other hardware.

## One-stop solution

Mr Botha said Archie Hardware has a motto to supply a ‘one-stop’ solution to its customers, and also said he is most proud of Archie Hardware's technical R&D capability. “Archie reinvests close to five per cent of annual revenue into R&D, innovation and automation. Currently our R&D department has 45 employees and we hold more than 300 patents,” he said.

“As a starting point, we implemented a security screen door solution into the market. This product range consists of hinge and sliding door locking solutions, with steel lock bodies for additional strength and stainless steel bolts, hooks, keepers and strikers in our high strength range.”

“Our other ‘new’ flagship product is the Duo Select Hinge Door Lock, which is a 30 millimetre back set mortice lock. This lock has an adjustable bolt with a 13 millimetre or 24 millimetre projection. The main benefit of this product is that the fabricator/manufacturer only needs to carry one product and where the requirement arises for a short throw (13mm), they can adjust it on site. The 13 millimetre requirement is needed where the bolt cannot penetrate the door frame, as it can cause water leakage into the dwelling,” Mr Botha said.



## Strength and quality

Archie Hardware's Australian product range is also tested to AS4145.2 – 2008, to ensure it adheres to strength and durability requirements. “Our security screen door range is additionally tested to AS5039 – 2003, which is a complete security door test though a NATA certified testing facility,” Mr Botha said. Innovation is another important aspect of Archie Hardware's operations, with Mr Botha pointing out that innovation is the reason why enterprises keep moving forward. “Earlier this year, we have put more advanced production technology into our production plant, such as automated polishing stations and assembly equipment to improve efficiency and product quality,” he said. “Our latest fingerprint lock incorporates the latest biotechnology identification technology. We use Philips high performance smart chip to eliminate defects in optical imaging, anti-counterfeiting, while offering a water proof product with thermostability. This technology is much more effective in identifying dry and wet fingerprints as well as those of children, elders and other special groups.” “Archie Hardware's new Hi-System, smart home system, is also developed on a Wi-Fi platform which can easily integrate with all adaptable products, such as electronic locks, window opening/closing devices, rain sensors, intruder/alarm sensors, lighting, curtain/blind operators, TVs, Stereo/Sound systems, etc. All of the above can be controlled via our Hi-System app and remotely through a server,” Mr Botha said.

## Plans for the future

The Archie brand has some impressive plans in place for Australian distributors and consumers, according to Mr Botha who said, “We at Archie Hardware are pleased to bring the latest hardware products to the Australian market as we know Australians love home renovation and DIY. Our plan for Australia is to become a one-stop door hardware brand,” Mr Botha said. “In Australia, some of our Archie Hardware products, such as security door locks, mechanical locks and door hardware accessories, are now available at SHL Mesh Distributors, Solomon's Security and Blinds, Fenestra Hardware Specialists (FHS) and Total Hardware. We are in the process of building up a partnership for our digital lock range as it is a more specialised product and therefore the support is imperative down to the end user.” “Our vision is to provide suitable solutions to our customers at a competitive price and quality. In today's world, locks or any product for that matter can be purchased at various price points and you get what you pay for. We also welcome our customers/distributors to visit our production facilities in China and have direct contact with the appropriate staff at the factory for ordering, customer service and technical support,” he said.

Consumers can connect with Archie Hardware via Facebook @archiehardwares, Instagram @archie\_hardware, Pinterest @archiehardware to view its latest product development and applications, or go to the website [www.archiehardware.com](http://www.archiehardware.com).