FOR A DOOR HARDWARE

consultant, Morocco is a dream come true. There are beautiful doors around every corner—tall doors, tiny doors, wicket doors, intricately painted doors, ancient doors that have been patched and repaired every-which-way, and amazing old hardware, from ornate surface bolts and pivots to rusty old locks whose keys are long gone.

This summer I took my family to Morocco and visited several sites of historic and architectural significance. Of course there were beautiful elements in addition to the doors: magnificent plasterwork, intricate zellij mosaic patterns with the tightest of tolerances, ornate cedar ceilings and trim, but I'm drawn to the doors. I hope you enjoy my version of…

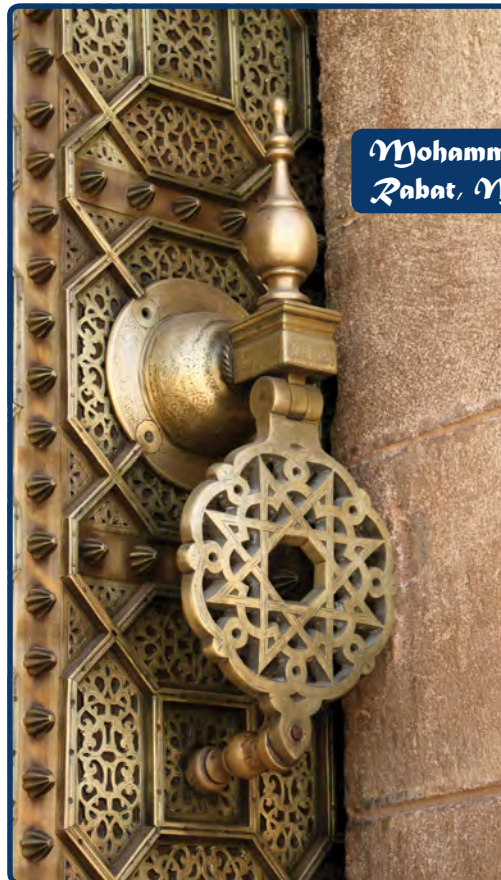Mosque of Hassan II with the tallest minaret of the world, Casablanca, Morocco.

Photo Credit: © iStockphoto.com/Witold Ryka

BY LORI GREENE, AHC/CDC, CCPR

About the Author: *Lori Greene, AHC/CDC, CCPR is the Manager of Codes & Resources for Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies. She can be reached at lori_greene@irco.com.*

doors of Morocco

Tile Pattern Photo Credit: © iStockphoto.com/Azat Ayupov

Mohammed V Mausoleum, Rabat, Morocco

◄◄**Hassan Sliders – The mausoleum is the final resting place of King Hassan V and his two sons, King Hassan II and Prince Abdallah. Both the mausoleum and the adjacent mosque have enormous bronze sliding pocket doors with geometric designs and raised points.**

◄**Hassan Knocker – The large door knockers prevent the doors from sliding open completely.**

Photos Courtesy of Lori Greene, AHC/CDC, CCPR, Ingersoll Rand Security Technologies

▲Bahia Courtyard Pair – The palace was built between 1859 and 1900 in two phases. Several beautiful pairs of doors lead from the central courtyard to the interior of the palace. This pair, more than 12 feet tall, contains a wicket door in each leaf, as well as a smaller wicket door in the top half of each of the larger wicket doors.
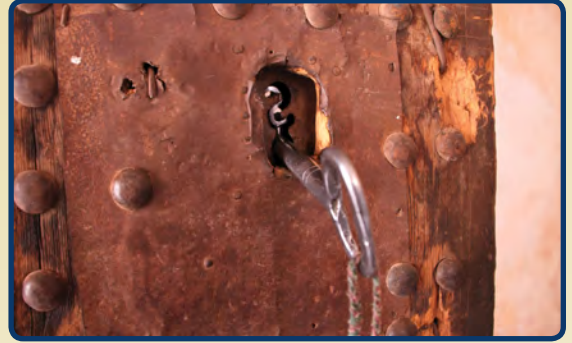

◄ **Bahia Light** – Light streams into the cool interior of the palace; temperatures exceeded 100 degrees out in the medina.

◄ **Bahia Wicket**– One of the small wicket doors in the courtyard; the hinge design incorporates a hand (hamsa), which is a common symbol in Morocco and is thought to provide protection against the evil eye.

◄Bahia Top Pivot – This intricately carved and painted top pivot is a common detail in the 19th-century kasbahs.

Glaoui Kasbah, Telouet, Morocco

◄Glaoui Exterior – There are actually three kasbahs in the complex, but two have fallen to ruin. The third kasbah is protected by large and heavily studded wood doors.
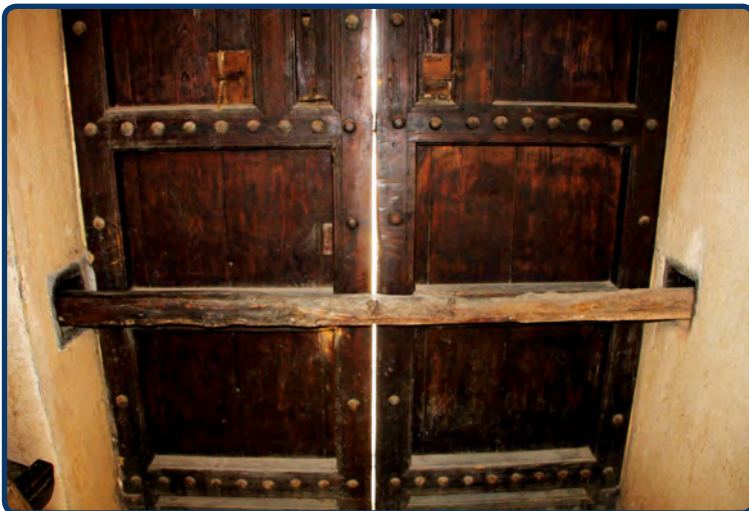
▲▲Glaoui Key – There is one key to the main entrance door, and I had a chance to test it in the deadbolt.

▲Glaoui Surface Bolt – Within the third kasbah, beautifully painted doors and engraved hardware replace the secure doors of the exterior.

Medersa Abu al-Hassan, Salé, Morocco

▶Medersa Entrance – This building was built as a school adjacent to the Grande Mosque in 1333 and includes a central courtyard with "student cells" on the second floor overlooking the courtyard.

▼Medersa Bar – The in-swinging entrance doors are locked with a bar that is pulled out of a hole in the wall, spans the doors, and is inserted into a hole in the opposite wall.

◄ **Mosque Entrance** – The Hassan II mosque is one of the largest mosques in the world and can accommodate 105,000 worshipers—25,000 inside and 80,000 on the surrounding grounds. The entrance doors are reportedly made of titanium and weigh 10 tons.

▼▼ **Mosque Tiny Lites** – Hundreds of tiny glass lites allow light to enter the mosque through this entrance.

▼ **Mosque Detail** – Through the lites, the sea is visible.