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14 June, 1999

All Registered Lift Contractors and Engineers

Dear Sir,

Circular No. 12/99
Car Side Emergency Doors

We have recently received enquiry about the purpose of Section E Part 1 Clause 4.11.2 of the Code of Practice on the Design and Construction of Lifts and Escalators issued by this department. Clause 4.11.2 is reproduced below –

4.11.2 Emergency Doors

Car side emergency doors may be used in the case of adjacent cars provided the horizontal distance between cars does not exceed 0.75m. If emergency doors exist, the provisions of Clause 4.11.1(a)(i), (ii), (iii) shall apply, except that the doors shall open towards the inside of the car and they shall measure at least 1.8m high and 0.35m wide.

The main purpose of Clause 4.11.2 is to lay down the requirements of car side emergency doors for cases where such emergency doors are provided as a second means of evacuating trapped passengers (i.e. in addition to the emergency trap doors provided under Clause 4.11.1). Emergency doors provided under Clause 4.11.2 shall not be treated as an alternative for the intermediate emergency doors in blind lift well where required by Clause 3.2 of the Code of Practice on Building Works for Lifts and Escalators.

Yours faithfully,

(LAW Yu-wing)
for Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services

c.c. AD/BS,
D of Housing (Attn.: TS/2),
D of Buildings (Attn.: CBS/Legislation)

LYW/GMWC/WKH