August 25, 2003

All Registered Escalator Contractors

Dear Sirs,

**Circular No. 15/2003**

**Ensuring Escalators in Safe Working Condition**

You may be aware of a recent court case with a charge against one of the registered escalator contractors on failing to upkeep the escalator’s handrail in good working order. The concerned contractor pleaded guilty and was fined $2,000. In this case, the contractor did not follow the replacement schedule recommended by the manufacturer and the consequent gap between the handrail profile and the cover profile caused an injury to a passenger.

As a registered escalator contractor, you play an important role in ascertaining the public safety by ensuring the escalators used by the public are in safe working order through close supervision of the escalator works to be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the works code together with the maintenance and replacement schedule recommended by the manufacturer.

Please be reminded that failure in ensuring the safety of passengers using the escalators by the registered escalator contractor will lead to prosecution and/or disciplinary actions by this department.

Yours faithfully,

(Andrew M.K. YAN)

for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Service