



# Public Consultation on the Amendment Proposals to Lifts and Escalators

(Safety) Ordinance, Cap.327

## **Review of the Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance**

Earlier this year, EMSD conducted a comprehensive review of the Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance. The following five areas were identified for further study with a view to exploring practical solutions to strengthen the regulatory framework on lift and escalator safety:

- (a) the review of the regulatory regime for public housing estates and government buildings;
- (b) the upgrading of the qualification requirements for registration as lift and escalator engineers;
- (c) the introduction of a registration system for lift and escalator workers;
- (d) the streamlining of existing regulatory processes; and
- (e) the increase of the penalty level of offences under the Ordinance.

# Introduction

Lifts and escalators are the principal means of vertical transportation in buildings. To ensure safety and reliability, all lifts and escalators in Hong Kong are required to be maintained and examined by qualified contractors and engineers at regular intervals.

The regulation of lift and escalator safety in Hong Kong falls into the ambit of the Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance (“the Ordinance”), Cap.327. The Ordinance was enacted in 1960 to provide for the design, construction, maintenance and testing of lifts and escalators, and for matters connected with the aforementioned purposes. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (“EMSD”) is the authority to enforce various provisions under the Ordinance.

The spate of lift incidents end of last year has heightened public concern over lift safety. Government has promptly put in place a package of improvement measures to enhance lift safety. In parallel, we started a comprehensive review of the Ordinance with a view to improving the operational efficiency of the enforcement work, tightening up the control of maintenance practices, and coping with technological advancement and increasing expectations from members of the public on lift and escalator safety.

**Consultation period: 30 November 2009 to  
28 February 2010**

The consultation document is available at the District Offices  
or at the following websites:

[http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/pps/le\\_pub.shtml](http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/pps/le_pub.shtml)

You are invited to send your views and comments on any part of this  
consultation paper. Please send your comments to the Electrical and  
Mechanical Services Department by 28 February 2010 by mail, e-mail  
or facsimile.

**Please send your view to:**

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