The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance introduces a number of new measures to enhance safety of lifts and escalators. The key measures are outlined below.

**Extending the coverage of the legislation**

- The Ordinance is applicable to all lifts and escalators in both public and private sectors.
- The Ordinance extends the coverage to any persons who have the management or control of lifts/escalators (e.g., property management agencies). Regulating the key persons for daily operation of lifts/escalators raises their awareness of the safety of lifts/escalators and tallies with the “Common Responsibility” principle.

**Increasing the penalty levels of offences**

- To achieve the necessary punitive and deterrent effects, the maximum fine is increased to $200,000 and the maximum imprisonment is 12 months.

**Enhancing operation and enforcement**

- A new use permit containing concise information of the lift/escalator such as the expiry date of its use permit is introduced to promote user surveillance.
- Responsible Persons may arrange Registered Engineers to conduct periodic examination within the 2-month period before the expiry date of the preceding use permit and apply for a new permit.
- The Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services is empowered to issue Improvement Orders for expediting the rectification of non-compliance.
- Responsible Persons of lift/escalator shall keep the log-books while Registered Contractors and Registered Engineers are required to enter information and particulars into log-books.
- Registered Contractors are required to attend to the failure of emergency devices of lifts (e.g., emergency lighting, ventilation fan, intercom and alarm) within 4 hours after the Registered Contractors become aware of the failure.
- If normal use and operation of lift/escalator is suspended because of an incident, Registered Contractors are required to display a notice in a conspicuous position on the reason of suspension within 4 hours after they become aware of the incident.

**Strengthening the registration regime of personnel engaged in lift and escalator works**

- A registration system for lift/escalator workers is introduced to recognize their technical competence and to institute sanctions against improper and unsafe practices.
- Qualification requirements for registered lift/escalator engineers are upgraded to meet the advancements of lift and escalator technology.
- Registered Contractors, Registered Engineers and Registered Workers are required to renew their registrations every five years to ensure their continual compliance with the registration requirements.