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5 August, 1997

All Registered Lift Contractors

Dear Sirs,

**Circular No. 11/97**  
**Safety in Carrying Out Lift Maintenance and Repair Works**

Recent accidents had occurred during the carrying out of lift works, and caused serious personal injuries. To prevent occurrence of similar accidents, your attention is drawn to Clauses 4.2 of Section C of the Code of Practice on Examination, Testing and Maintenance of Lifts and Escalators which require the adoption of a safe system of work.

As agreed in the recent discussions with the lift contractors associations, the lift contractor shall ensure that the following lift works are carried out by two or more lift workers as required:-

- (i) releasing passengers trapped in a lift stopped outside the unlocking zone; and
- (ii) manually releasing the brake of the traction machine of an electric lift, or operating the manual emergency lowering or ascending device of a hydraulic lift.

The lift workers should be reminded to take necessary safety precautions in carrying out maintenance and repair works, in particular when any safety circuit is bypassed or interfered affecting the safety of the lift users.

Yours faithfully,

(G.M.W. CHUI)  
for Director of Electrical & Mechanical Services

c.c. AD/BS  
D of Housing (Attn.: TS/1)  
Hong Kong Union of Lift & Escalator Employees

WLC/GMWC/tp