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27 November 2014

All Registered Lift Contractors and Engineer

(59) in EMSD/LESD 7-2/4A

Dear Sirs,

## Circular No. 12/2014

## The requirement of wearing safety helmet in lift working environment

This circular serves to remind you that as a lift-installed in a building is regarded as an integral part of the building, any lift works including the installation, repair, maintenance, alteration, improvement, dismantling, or demolition works are deemed to be construction work as stated in Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance (FIUO), Cap. 59.

Provision of suitable safety helmet to each workman employed on the construction site is governed by Regulations 48(1) & 48(1A) of the Construction Sites (Safety) Regulations (CSSR), Cap. 59I which prescribe that:

- (1) A contractor responsible for a construction site shall-
- (a) provide each workman employed on the site with a suitable safety helmet; and(b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that no workman remains on the site unless he is wearing a suitable safety helmet.
- (1A) Any contractor who has direct control over any construction work shallprovide each workman employed to carry out the construction work with a suitable safety
  helmet; and(b) take all reasonable steps to ensure that no workman employed to carry out
  the construction work remains on the site unless he is wearing a suitable safety helmet.

Beside, under Section 6 of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance, Cap.509, every employer is required to ensure the safety and health at work of his employees. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the employer to assess and evaluate the risks of head injury associated with the working environment and activities to be done; and provide safety helmets to their employees where appropriate.

The Labour Department has published the "<u>Guidance Notes on the Selection</u>, <u>Use and Maintenance of Safety Helmets</u>" (GN) to provide guidance to all employers and employees who work in, manage and control of workplaces if there are foreseeable risks of head injury. The GN can be viewed and downloaded from the website through the hyperlink provided above.

The use of safety helmet is always regarded as one of the appropriate preventive measures to prevent head injury while carrying out the lift works. This good practice will certainly enhance the safety at work.

Yours faithfully,

(CHU Kei-ming, Barry)

for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

c.c. The Lift and Escalator Contractors Association
The Registered Elevator and Escalator Contractors Association Limited
The Hong Kong General Union of Lift and Escalator Employees