August 1, 2003

All Registered Lift Contractors/Engineers

Dear Sirs,

**Circular No.14/2003**

**Fatal Accident Involving an Electric Lift**

You might recall that a fatal lift accident occurred in early 2002 in which a boy of 11 years old was trapped between the car door sill and the transom of the landing entrance when the lift car was moving upward with both car and landing doors open. At the conclusion of the concerned death inquest, the Jury returned a conclusion of “Accident” and also added recommendations below:-

*The Jury agree with the following recommendations:*-

1. A control system should be provided to guarantee a successful changeover of holding a lift car at a stationary position from the electric lift motor to the mechanical brake during a normal stop of the lift car at a landing. A closed-loop control system is one of the possible solutions.

2. The mechanical brake in particular the brake spring adjusting/lock nuts should be properly adjusted and maintained in good working order to provide the effective braking force to stop the lift car in time in order to protect the passenger.

3. A suitable locking device should be provided to prevent the brake spring adjusting/lock nuts from loosening in service.

/...
In addition, the Jury highly recommend to install solenoid with dust seal, so as to minimize the possibilities of the jamming of the plunger, even though they don’t have sufficient evidences if there was jamming in solenoid of the lift concerned.

In this respect, you are requested to take action to comply with the above recommendations.

Yours faithfully,

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