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All Registered Lift/Escalator Contractors

Dear Sirs,

Circular No. 14/2005 Braking System of Lift

The purpose of this circular is to remind all registered lift contractors to pay attention on setting and maintaining the braking system of lift so as to ensure its safe working condition.

It is undoubtedly that the braking system is an important safety feature for lifts. But nowadays, tendency of paying less attention on setting of and maintaining the system, especially for those lifts with modern drive control like ACVV and ACVVF, by the trade is observed. It may be because that the machine brake of these lift drives has no direct effect on stopping and levelling accuracy since it is mainly for parking during normal operation and for braking only under emergency operation. Nevertheless, if the braking system is not properly set or maintained, it could result in either not enough braking force or intermittent delay on brake application. The most dangerous situation is the uncontrolled lift car moving away from landing for an unacceptable long distance with both car and landing doors opened before the machine brake can come into effect. This is definitely a hazardous situation to lift users as well as lift workers.

In this connection, you are advised to check the safe working condition of the braking system regularly. The areas concerned include the correct setting of the system for providing adequate braking force, i.e. spring and lining setting, and the smooth operation of brake plunger(s) and brake arm pivot(s), in particular free from rust.

Yours faithfully,



(WOO Kin-ming)
for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

Encl.

c.c. The Director of Housing
The Director of Architectural Services
The Lift and Escalator Contractors Association Ltd.
The Registered Elevator and Escalator Contractors Association Ltd.
The International Association of Elevator Engineers
The Hong Kong General Union of Lift and Escalator Employees