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24 November 1995

All Registered Escalator Contractors

Dear Sirs,

**Circular No. 16/95**  
**Broken Treads of Escalator Steps**

In recent inspections, the steps of some escalators were seen to have undesirable gaps arising from broken treads.

Please be reminded that the running clearances between consecutive steps and between the steps and the skirting of an escalator are required to be maintained within the prescribed limits at all times in ensuring safe operation of the escalator. Accordingly, broken tread at step sides, front or rear step edges giving rise to excessive clearance is substandard. In particular, broken tread resulting in a slot at the step side is hazardous to users wearing shoes with thin or rubber soles.

Your cooperation and concerted effort in rendering a high standard of maintenance to escalators and enhancing escalator safety will be appreciated.

Yours faithfully,

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

c.c. AD/BS  
D of Housing (Attn.: TS/1)

YKH/GMWC/tp