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20 January 2014

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To: All Registered Lift/Escalator Contractors and Engineers

Dear Sirs,

Circular No. 3/2014

Improvement of the Barrier Free Access – Extension on the Travel Height of the Vertical Lifting Platform from 4 M to 7 M and Update of the Cross References for the Barrier Free Access

This circular serves to inform that if there is impractical to provide a passenger lift or a ramp, a self-operated vertical lifting platform may be considered as a reasonable alternative for vertical transportation for wheelchair users. If there is any extension of travel height after type approval has been granted, the Registered Contractor is required to apply for a re-appraisal of the type approval.

In view of increasing demand for persons with a disability and for elderly persons using vertical lifting platform and promoting the barrier free access in Hong Kong, the limit of the travel height of the powered vertical lifting platforms is extended from 4 meters to 7 meters (i.e. two upper floor stops) on the Clause 1.1.5 and an overload device is also added on the Clause 4.3.3 of Section E Part 6 of the Code of Practice on the Design and Construction of Lifts and Escalators (2012 Edition), respectively, with immediate effect. In addition, cross references for the Barrier Free Access are also updated to align with the latest development. The next edition of the Code of Practice on the Design and Construction of Lifts and Escalators (2012 Edition) will incorporate the attached Amendment No. 2. Please be reminded that the constant pressure on the push-button / spring-biased toggle device remains required for the movement of the lifting platform (clause 10.3.1.1).

If you have any queries on the above requirements, please contact Mr. Gordon NG at the telephone no. 2808 3115.

Yours faithfully,

(W.S. CHUI)
for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

c.c. The Director of Housing (Attn.: SM/QM)
The Director of Buildings
Director of Architectural Services (Attn: CBSE/2)
The Lift and Escalator Contractors Association
The Registered Elevator and Escalator Contractors Association Limited
The International Association of Elevator Engineers
The Hong Kong General Union of Lift and Escalator Employees

Code of Practice
On the Design and Construction of Lifts and Escalators
(2012 Edition)

AMENDMENT No. 2 of 2012 Edition
Extension on the Travel Height of the Vertical Lifting Platform from 4 M to 7 M and Updated Information of the Barrier Free Access

(New requirements are provided practical guidance in respect of the new installation of lifts/
powered vertical lifting platforms)

Revise/add the following Clause in Section A

Item	Clause	Description
1	1	Part 6 deals with powered vertical lifting platforms for persons with ambulant disabilities and wheelchair users.
2	8(e)	The design and construction of any lift for persons with a disability (whether provided in accordance with regulation 72 of the Building (Planning) Regulations (Chapter 123) or not) shall also comply with the requirements provided for in item 14 in Part † Division 19 of the Third Schedule to the Building (Planning) Regulations, in addition to those specified in Parts 1 and 2 of Section E of the Code.

Revise the following Clause in Section B

Item	Clause	Description
3	(w)	Design Manual - Barrier Free Access 1997 2008
4	(x) BS EN81-41	Safety rules for the construction and installation of lifts – Special lifts for the transport of persons and goods, Part 41: Vertical lifting platforms intended for use by persons with impaired mobility

Revise the following Clause after Section E Part 6:

Item	Clause	Description
5	1.1.5	The vertical travel of a powered lifting platform shall in no circumstances exceed 4.0 7.0 m (i.e. two upper floor stops).

Add Part 6: Clause 4.3.4 with the following description:

Item	Clause	Description
6	4.3.3	Every vertical lifting platform shall be provided with an overload device specified in Part 1 Clause 4.2.4. In the event of overload, passengers shall be informed by an audible and visual signal from the platform. The operation of the electric device shall also prevent the power operated doors from closing. In case the vertical lifting platform is provided with manual operated doors, the doors shall remain unlocked or unlockable within the unlocking zone in the event of overload.