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EMSD/LESD 7-2/4A Pt II

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17 April 2020

To: All Registered Escalator Contractors and Registered Escalator Engineers

Dear Sirs,

## **Circular No. 4/2020**

### **Extension of Grace Period for First Brake Load Tests for Existing Escalators**

Circular No. 10/2017 issued on 25 August 2017 sets the deadline of the 3-year grace period for conducting the first brake load test for existing escalators to be 31 August 2020.

As of mid April 2020, about 55% of the existing escalators with a vertical rise of 2.5 m or more have already been conducted the first brake load tests. Most registered contractors (RCs) schedule the first brake load tests to be conducted within the rearest part of the grace period, which however were seriously hindered due to the ongoing social unrest and pandemic in the past few months. To give more flexibility for RCs to conduct the brake load tests amidst the need to observe social distancing requirements in this very period, the grace period for conducting the first brake load test for existing escalators is now extended for four months to end 2020.

RCs are requested to make use of the extended grace period to finish the first brake load tests. In scheduling for the brake load tests, RCs should liaise with the responsible persons to streamline brake load tests with periodic examinations of escalators in order to lessen interruption to escalator services. Where the brake load test has been conducted during test and examination of newly installed escalators, subsequent brake load tests are required to be conducted thereafter at intervals not exceeding 5-year.

RCs are reminded that stepped-up inspection would be conducted and suitable enforcement actions taken in particular for existing escalators without first brake load test done by the extended grace period.

If you have any question on this subject, please contact our officer on tel. number 3757 6120.

Yours faithfully,



(LAU Lik-kee)

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

International Association of Elevator Engineers (HK-China Branch)