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(47) in EMSD/LESD 7-2/4A Pt II

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13 April 2021

To: All Registered Lift/Escalator Contractors  
All Registered Lift/Escalator Engineers

Dear Sirs,

## **Circular No. 4/2021 Notification of Major Lift/Escalator Incidents**

Thanks to the joint efforts of the lift/escalator trade, the rates of lift/escalator incidents due to equipment failure have been maintained at low levels despite the heavy utilization and varying modernisation standards of the bulk of 70 000 lifts and 10 000 escalators in the territory.

There however continue to be sporadic major lift/escalator incidents. To speed up thorough investigation of major incidents and take prompt measures to prevent recurrence of similar failures, a registered lift/escalator contractor (RC) who becomes aware of a lift/escalator incident due to the failure of major component(s) or which appears to have the failure phenomenon given in the Appendix is required to immediately notify this department via the 24 hours hotline (Tel.:2333 3762), giving the location and basic particulars of the incident.

Upon receipt of notification, EMSD will evaluate the case and decide to deploy suitable investigation personnel to attend to the scene to conduct incident investigation. The RC and its staff should immediately check and make safe the lift/escalator installation upon their arrival to the scene. Unless there is an imminent danger or agreed by EMSD or other enforcement authority, the RC and its staff should not start repair, removal, or disposal of any damaged/defective parts of a lift/escalator involved in a major incident. Failure to observe the requirement may be taken as a serious neglect or misconduct. Nevertheless, RCs are reminded to observe the requirements under sections 40, 41, 70, and 71 of the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance, in particular, the timely submission of incident reports and provision of assistance to the Director for incident investigation.

RCs are requested to remind their staff of the requirements of this Circular and join hands to further uplift the safety standard of lifts/escalators in the territory. This Circular comes into effect immediately.

Yours faithfully,



(LAU Lik-kee)

for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

**A. Breakdown or Failure Phenomenon of Lifts Requiring Immediate Reporting to EMSD**

1. A person dies or is seriously injured (such as fracture, laceration, and loss of consciousness) and the death or injury involves a lift or any associated equipment or machinery of a lift;
2. A breakage of any suspension rope of a lift;
3. A failure of any brake;
4. The symptom of ascending overspeed of the car of a lift;
5. The symptom of unintended car movement of a lift;
6. The symptom of over-travel with either the lift car or counterweight buffer switch is triggered, or the energy accumulation buffer, where installed, is hit;

**B. Breakdown or Failure Phenomenon of Escalators Requiring Immediate Reporting to EMSD**

1. A person dies or is seriously injured (such as fracture, laceration, and loss of consciousness) and the death or injury involves an escalator or any associated equipment or machinery of an escalator;
2. A breakage of the step chain or drive chain of an escalator;
3. Rollback of the steps of an escalator;
4. A failure of any brake;
5. Dislocation of any step of an escalator or any pallet of a passenger conveyor resulted in a cavity on the exposed tread path of the escalator or passenger conveyor;