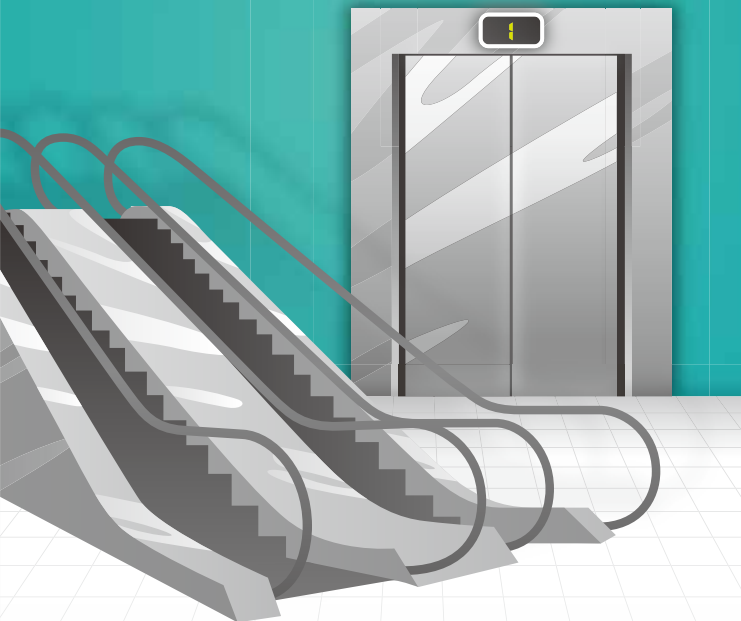




Lifts and Escalators Ordinance

(Chapter 618)



The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (“The Ordinance”) has come into operation on 17 December 2012. The Ordinance repealed the existing Lifts and Escalators (Safety) Ordinance (Chapter 327). For details of the Ordinance, please visit the website of the EMSD (www.emsd.gov.hk). For enquiry, please contact EMSD by phone 1823, or 2333 3762, or by email (info@emsd.gov.hk).

The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance introduces a number of new measures to enhance safety of lifts and escalators. The key measures are outlined below.



Extending the coverage of the legislation

- The Ordinance is applicable to all lifts and escalators in both public and private sectors.
- The Ordinance extends the coverage to any persons who have the management or control of lifts/escalators (e.g. property management agencies). Regulating the key persons for daily operation of lifts/escalators raises their awareness of the safety of lifts/escalators and tallies with the “Common Responsibility” principle.

Strengthening the registration regime of personnel engaged in lift and escalator works

- A registration system for lift/escalator workers is introduced to recognize their technical competence and to institute sanctions against improper and unsafe practices.
- Qualification requirements for registered lift/escalator engineers are upgraded to meet the advancements of lift and escalator technology.
- Registered Contractors, Registered Engineers and Registered Workers are required to renew their registrations every five years to ensure their continual compliance with the registration requirements.



Increasing the penalty levels of offences

- To achieve the necessary punitive and deterrent effects, the maximum fine is increased to \$200,000 and the maximum imprisonment is 12 months.

Enhancing operation and enforcement

- A new use permit containing concise information of the lift/escalator such as the expiry date of its use permit is introduced to promote user surveillance.
- Responsible Persons may arrange Registered Engineers to conduct periodic examination within the 2-month period before the expiry date of the preceding use permit and apply for a new permit.
- The Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services is empowered to issue Improvement Orders for expediting the rectification of non-compliance.
- Responsible Persons of lift/escalator shall keep the log-books while Registered Contractors and Registered Engineers are required to enter information and particulars into log-books.
- Registered Contractors are required to attend to the failure of emergency devices of lifts (e.g. emergency lighting, ventilation fan, intercom and alarm) within 4 hours after the Registered Contractors become aware of the failure.
- If normal use and operation of lift/escalator is suspended because of an incident, Registered Contractors are required to display a notice in a conspicuous position on the reason of suspension within 4 hours after they become aware of the incident.

