

Potential Revisions To State and Local Elevator Code Requirements Under Code Adoption Processes for the International Building Code For 2000 and 2003

Potential Elevator Code Amendments Which May Surface During State and Local Adoption Phases of the 2003 IBC:

A. IBC Approved Standards Under 2003 Edition:

1. IBC Section 3005.2.2 - 32" clear width of escalators in below grade transportation stations, with exception for existing facilities undergoing alterations.
2. IBC Section 1007.5 - Handicapped (wheelchair) platform lifts - approved as part of accessible egress route in new construction (see also Sections 1109.7 and 2702.2.5)

B. Proposed Reference Standards:

1. A17.1-2000—relating to construction in flood hazard areas.
2. A17.1a-2002—escalator safety features to protect children from catching their shoes.
3. A17.1b-2003—new performance tests for maintenance inspections of escalators with improved skirting devices.
4. Also included in the above elevator standards are:
 - a. a new safety device to prevent unintended car movement into the overhead structure of the hoistway.
 - b. several alternate safety devices to be installed (retrofitted) on pre-1971 elevators to prevent catastrophic failure of single sleeve hydraulic jacks (thereby allowing elevator to descend without any passenger safety mechanism) with plunger/gripper devices (costs - \$10,000 to \$30,000 per elevator) with a three-year compliance date.
5. A17.1 Appendix N
Provision to allow localities to conduct six (6) months inspections.
6. A17.1-2000
 - a. As now written, this standard conflicts with a new type of less expensive European elevator where equipment is installed in hoistway and no equipment room is required.
 - b. Allows substitution of new pumps with sensor and new materials for currently required 150-gallon containers to comply with CAA.
7. A17.3
Mandates from 1984 on retrofitting of elevator door restrictors to prevent passengers from falling into hoistways. Proposals may come forth to mandate retrofits back beyond the 1984 time period.

C. Other Potential Proposed Changes:

- 3002.4 - locations for placing the "star of life" symbol indicating an elevator, which can accommodate an ambulance stretcher.