

ELEVATING DEVICE SAFETY BULLETIN

February 12, 2009

Passenger Elevator Modernizations and Alterations for Existing Elevators

NOTICE TO OWNERS:

This Bulletin is being issued by Public Works and Services to encourage and assist owners in making passenger **elevator modernizations and alterations** of their existing elevators.

INTRODUCTION:

Elevator design codes change over time based on technical innovation and information gathered from field experience. These code changes and possible changes to the use of an elevator make it important that the owner evaluate whether the design of their elevator appropriately matches the operational conditions in which it is used.

Owners should complete a periodic evaluation and take remedial action to mitigate possible safety concerns that are evident because of these changes to the Modernization or Addition or Alteration of Existing Elevators;

Car Cab Modernizations

One of the most common minor modernizations to passenger elevators is refinishing interiors of elevator car cabs. Owners should be aware that a seemingly straight forward change to the car cab can lead to serious safety concerns in the operation of the elevator and non-compliance of the *Elevating Devices Codes Regulation*. Some of the most commonly overlooked items are;

- Installing materials that have the correct flame spread and smoke development characteristics.
- Installing the proper types of safety glass and plastics for mirrors and car linings.
- Providing the correct amount of car ventilation.
- Ensuring that the correct levels of lighting are installed.
- Securely fasten all car cab materials so they do not become dislodged and fall under all operating conditions including the application of emergency safety devices.
- Ensuring that Emergency Exits are not compromised.
- Verifying the additions or deletions of elevator car equipment such as mirrors does not significantly increase or reduce the weight of the elevator car that would require a change to the elevator counterweight. Note: weight change of 45 kg (100 lbs) could effect the safe operation of the elevator.

Please read all the [Elevator Safety Bulletins](#) or go to [Questions and Answers](#) for more information on elevator safety.

If you have any questions about this Elevator Safety Bulletin, contact the Chief Elevator Inspector at 867-873-7461.