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September 05, 2002

ELEVATOR SAFETY PROGRAM CODE INTERPRETATION

OR-2002-001

Applies to all new installations and alterations.

Subject: Battery Lowering & Fire Service Operation
Rule No: ASME A17.1b, 1998; Part III and ASME A17.1a, 2002, 3.27.1
ASME Interp: N/A
Effective: September 05, 2002

This is an interim interpretation pending the adoption of ASME A17.1a 2002 expected to be effective January 1, 2003.

Hydraulic elevators equipped with a battery lowering device are required to operate in the following manner if the device is activated and the elevator is already on Phase I Elevator Recall or Phase II Firefighter's Independent Operation.

1. If the elevator is in motion when the power fails (i.e. shunt trip activation, etc.), the elevator may react to the battery lowering device;
2. If the elevator is at a floor with the doors open on Phase I or II, the elevator shall remain at the landing with the doors open; or
3. The elevator must comply with ASME A17.1a, 2002, Req. 3.27.1.

Note: This interpretation will expire upon formal adoption of ASME A17.1a, 2002.

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Chief Elevator Inspector