



Lift & Escalator Owner News

Subject: SAFed Guidelines on the supplementary tests of in-service lifts

What a lift owner/duty-holder needs to know about supplementary testing of their lift

Owners/duty-holders of lifts and lifting equipment which are work equipment must have their lifts and lifting equipment periodically thoroughly examined to ensure their continued safe use, under the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER).

Lifts to which LOLER does not apply should be thoroughly examined to satisfy s3 of the Health and Safety at Work Act (HSWA) according to [HSE guidance](#). Escalators and moving walks should be thoroughly examined/inspected according to [SAFed guidance](#).

The owner/duty-holder typically appoints an inspection body to carry out thorough examination. As part of thorough examination, the inspection body might call for supplementary tests of components or functions which are not able to be checked during thorough examination or which need a periodic test to check their operation. The inspection body passes details of the supplementary tests required to the owner/duty-holder. Typically, the owner/duty-holder appoints the maintenance provider to carry the supplementary tests and report back and passes these reports back to the inspection body.

A maintenance provider might also recommend supplementary tests where their maintenance inspections have identified potential defects. However these do not have the same status as supplementary tests called for by the inspection body.

The Safety Assessment Federation (SAFed), in consultation with their members who carry out thorough examination and the LEIA, has published “Guidelines on the supplementary tests of in-service lifts” to provide guidance for those carrying out thorough examination and those carrying out the tests. The latest revision, Issue 4.1 was published in June 2020.

Revised SAFed Guidelines on the supplementary tests of in-service lifts – Issue 4.1

There are several changes intended to keep pace with changing technology and the demands on thorough examination including:

- 1) New supplementary tests for unintended carrier movement protection (UCMP)
- 2) New supplementary tests for automatic power operated doors
- 3) New supplementary tests for other items – such as emergency release/rescue operation, devices to ensure adequate refuge spaces, and for lifts with operation in the event of fire – evacuation lifts and lifts for use by the fire service
- 4) Revised guidance for the supplementary tests for safety gear systems
- 5) Revised guidance for the supplementary test for traction, braking and levelling
- 6) Clarification relating to the periodicity for supplementary tests – some periodicities have been changed and some have clearer recommended periodicities.

The Guidelines including certificates and reports of supplementary tests (test reports) are available at www.safed.co.uk while the Guidelines and editable test reports are available to SAFed members and to LEIA members.