

The Duties of the Lift Service Providers

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The lift, Escalator and Passenger Conveyor Regulations (LEPCR) mainly mention the user, but the scope includes any person who carries out work on lifts, escalators, or passenger conveyors.

Although the regulation only requires the designation of a competent lift service provider for the maintenance of lifts, escalators, and passenger conveyors (Units), the installations of these units are also subject to these regulations.

Permission to install and use

No person shall install or permit the installation of a unit unless:

- There was an application for permission to erect that unit.
- An official number was issued for that unit.
- That unit meets the LEPCR, and the standards incorporated into the LEPCR.

No person shall put a unit into use:

- Unless that person is in possession of a valid comprehensive report issued by an accredited lift inspection service provider.

Design and construction

No person shall install, modify, or use a unit unless:

- That unit has been designed and constructed or modified in accordance with the relevant standards incorporated into the LEPCR.
- The national Building Regulations (SANS 10400) have been complied with.

From the OHS Act

22 Sale of certain articles prohibited:

- No person shall sell or market in any manner whatsoever plant or machinery unless it complies with prescribed standards.

Maintenance

- The user shall designate a **lift service provider** to maintain a unit once a month or at intervals as prescribed by the manufacturer.
- The lift service provider shall examine the unit as prescribed by the relevant manufacturer, provided that in the case of a lift:
 - All gates and door locks shall be tested at each examination.
 - The suspension ropes shall be examined at six monthly intervals.
 - The safety gear, overspeed governor and buffers shall be tested at intervals not exceeding 12 months.
- If a weakness or defect is detected during maintenance whereby persons are endangered the lift service provider:
 - The user shall designate a **lift service provider** to maintain a unit once a provincial director.
 - No person shall use that unit until such weakness or defect has been rectified to the satisfaction of an inspection service provider.

Maintenance (continued)

- The user and the lift service provider shall immediately notify the provincial director in writing of the name and address of the lift service provider who is responsible for examinations and tests.
- The lift service provider shall immediately notify the provincial director in writing if a unit is found to be in operation without a valid comprehensive report.

Note: Where the defects listed on a comprehensive report are not completed within the allowed 60 days, the comprehensive report is no longer valid.

Particulars of Lifts, Escalator and Passenger Conveyors

Although the regulation state that the user shall do the following, it is usually done by the lift service provider.

- Mark each lift with all the info which appears on the front of the comprehensive report.
 - The name of the manufacturer.
 - The year of Installation.
 - The year of modification.
 - The official Number.
 - The rated load.
 - The rated Speed.
- Label the different lifts in the machinery room and in the well.
- Keep an up-to-date legible wiring diagram on site.
- Affix emergency telephone numbers on the main landing and in the lift.

Inspections and tests

This section of the regulation deals mainly with the user or his mandatory about:

- When Comprehensive reports must be issued.
- What if a serious defect or weakness is detected.
- What the duties of an inspection service provider are.

Record keeping

Although the regulation state that the user shall do the following, it is usually done by the lift service provider.

- The name and address of the user.
- The details of the designated lift service provider must be on site.
- A report of the results of every examination, modification, repair, adjustment and test carried out.
- A copy of the suspension ropes certificate.
- Register or files required by the relevant SANS Standard.
- The commissioning acceptance report.
- A copy of each comprehensive report.

The user shall keep these records for at least ten years.