Testing of Conveyances

Date: 2-2-2015, revision to document dated 6-26-2013

Subject of Revision:
Updated including latest codes.

Purpose of Testing

The adopted national elevator code, ASME A17.1 (2013) requires periodic testing of many components of elevators, escalators, moving walks, dumbwaiters and other conveyances. The tests are necessary to ensure that critical components will function as necessary to safeguard users of conveyances, buildings and sites. Quality and accuracy of tests are critical to assuring safety.

Persons Performing Tests

All Category 1 and Category 5 tests must be conducted by licensed elevator personnel according to ASME A17.1, 8.6.1.3 and SPS 318.1708(6)(b).

Licensed or registered elevator personnel, the conveyance owner or the owner's representative may perform the required quarterly checks of hydraulic elevator oil usage according to SPS 318.1708(2)(g) and firefighters emergency operation according to SPS 318.1708(2)(k). The results of these checks are to be part of the maintenance record as required by ASME A17.1, 8.6.1.4.1(c)(1) and (2).

Test Procedures

Procedures and methods necessary for tests must be provided by the original equipment manufacturer as required by ASME A17.1, 8.6.1.2.2(b) as part of the maintenance control program (MCP) according to ASME A17.1, 8.6.1.2.1(f).

The MCP is the property of the owner and may be removed only with the permission of the owner according to SPS 318.1708(2)(b) 1.b.

The MCP must be in paper form as required by SPS 318.1708(2)(b) 1.a.

The MCP must be located as required by SPS 318.1708(2)(b) 3.

The MCP must be on site and available to elevator personnel at the time scheduled for testing according to SPS 318.1708(2)(b) 2.
Test Forms

This department has provided several forms to be used to document the required testing. The forms are available at:

with this table explaining the use of the forms:

For elevators within the city of Madison, please use the forms provided by the Madison Fire Department.

Complete the forms as instructed per SPS 318.1708(6)(c) to allow for timely completion of annual inspections and issuing renewals of permits to operate.

Reviewing of Test Results

Test forms entered into the on-site maintenance record according to SPS 318.1708(2)(e) are reviewed as part of the next annual inspection. Test forms required to be mailed to the department or municipality according to SPS 318.1708(2)(f), SPS 318.1708(2)(i) 1.b. and 2.b. and SPS 318.1708(j) 2. are reviewed for correctness after being received by the department. Code violations or errors in performing tests or in completing the forms discovered during the review will result in notification to the company performing the test, requiring the necessary corrections to be made.

Witnessing of Tests

Tests may be witnessed by licensed elevator inspectors according to SPS 318.1708(2)(d).