



**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
 Department of Safety and Professional Services

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**Important Dates in Wisconsin Elevator Code History**

Rev 9-12-2017

Topic		Date
General	Specific	The date listed here is the date the code was published. Wisconsin Codes take effect the first day of the following month.
First elevator code	1 <sup>st</sup> Wisconsin state elevator code, department name: <b>Industrial Commission</b>	1912, Industrial Commission Ind 4
Plan Review	Beginning of plan review for new elevator installations and alterations to existing elevators.	January, 1918, Ind Order 415
Inspections	Beginning of elevator inspections.	January, 1918 Ind Order 416
Separation of non-elevator related equipment from elevator equipment in machine rooms	Beginning of prohibition of non-elevator-related machinery, apparatus or material in a machine room unless separated by a rigid partition not less than 6 feet in height and 3 feet from elevator eq. Prior to this date elevator equipment commonly shared space with other building equipment. Improvement of existing conditions to current codes is encouraged, particularly with installation of firefighters emergency operation, but is not required and may be impractical due to equipment access, ducts, piping and headroom and other clearance issues.	October 1964 Ind 4.20(3).
Firefighters emergency operation	1 <sup>st</sup> requirement for firefighters emergency operation, applied to new passenger and freight installations with travel of 30 feet or more.	October 1976 Ind 4.95
Firefighters emergency operation keys	One set of firefighters emergency operation keys required to readily accessible to qualified persons responsible for maintenance and operation but not to the general public, and another set of keys in a metal box at a conspicuous location at the main floor or other approved level for access only by fire, police and rescue.	October 1976 Ind 4.95
First adoption of ASME A17.1	1 <sup>st</sup> adoption of ASME A17.1 ( <b>1981</b> ), National Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.	January 1983 Ind 4.21
Firefighters emergency operation	Change to requirement for firefighters emergency operation to apply where travel is 25 feet or more instead of 30 feet or more.	January 1983 Ind 4.21
Emergency light and alarm	Beginning of requirements for elevators to have an emergency car light and car top alarm bell.	January 1983 Ind 4.21

Sprinklers prohibited in machine rooms and hoistways	Beginning of prohibition of sprinklers in hoistways, machine rooms or machinery spaces. Before this date, sprinklers were allowed to be installed with no requirement for shunt trip disconnect system. These are grandfathered.	January 1983 Ind 4.26
<b>Department name changed to Industry Labor and Human Relations (ILHR) Elevator Code renamed ILHR 18</b>		January 1, 1984
Residential elevators in commercial buildings	Beginning of allowance for Part V residential elevators to be installed in commercial buildings with additional code requirements.	August 1988
Change to adopted ASME A17.1	Adoption of ASME A17.1 ( <b>1984</b> ), National Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.	August, 1988 ILHR 18.17
Stairway chairlifts	Beginning of requirement for new stairway chairlifts to be equipped with an overspeed safety device.	August 1988
Change to adopted ASME A17.1	Adoption of ASME A17.1 ( <b>1990</b> ), National Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.	March 1994 ILHR 18.14
Sprinklers and shunt trip disconnect	End of prohibition of sprinklers in hoistways, machine rooms or machinery spaces. Beginning of requirement to install shunt trip disconnect system for passenger and freight elevators where water from sprinklers may discharge onto elevator equipment including the car.	March 1994 ILHR 18.21
Sprinklers, shunt trip disconnect and firefighters emergency operation	Beginning of requirement to install FEO on any new elevator where sprinklers are installed	March 1994 ILHR 18.21
Lobby key box, keys	Beginning of requirement for a key box at the designated level lobby or another approved location to contain the FEO keys. The hoistway door unlocking device to be in the machine room. The machine room door key to be kept "in the building and available to emergency personnel."	March 1994 ILHR 18.31(3)  ILHR 18.26(2)(a)  ILHR 18.26(2)(b)
Residential elevators in commercial buildings	Change to allowance for Part V residential elevators to be installed in commercial buildings. Instead of being allowed in any commercial building, new installations began to be limited to places of worship with conditions.	March 1994 ILHR 18.36
<b>Department name changed to Commerce (Comm) Elevator Code renamed Comm 18</b>		January 1, 1997
Hydraulic elevator machine room ventilation	Beginning of requirement for new machine rooms for hydraulic elevators to be vented to unoccupied spaces such as storage rooms, to machine shops or parking areas having similar odors, or to the outdoors. New rooms could no longer be vented to building corridors or other occupied areas but exhaust systems could transfer air from these spaces into the machine room to be exhausted.	Approx. 1996
Firefighters emergency operation	Change to requirement for firefighters emergency operation to apply where travel is 6 ft 8in or more instead of 25 feet or more.	April 1998 Comm 18.31(3)
Change to adopted ASME	Adoption of ASME A17.1 ( <b>1996</b> ), National Safety Code for	Nov 1999

A17.1	Elevators and Escalators.	ILHR 18.14
Sprinklers, shunt trip disconnect and firefighters emergency operation	Beginning of requirement to install FEO on any new <i>or existing</i> elevator where sprinklers are installed. This was not retroactive to address existing elevators that had sprinklers installed prior to this date.	Nov 1999 ILHR 18.21(2)
Hydraulic elevator flexible hoses	1 <sup>st</sup> requirement for elevators having a flexible hose connection to also have an overspeed valve. This applied to full-size and LULA elevators but not to Part V elevators or VPLs. Maintenance of elevators prior to this requirement includes replacement of such hoses at least every 6 years per A17.1 (2013), 8.6.5.6.	Nov 1999 A17.1, 303.3c(1)(f)
Hydraulic elevator machine room ventilation	Change to requirement for new machine rooms for hydraulic elevator venting. Where an exhaust system is used to maintain conditions, air could no longer be exhausted to building corridors, other occupied areas or to unoccupied spaces such as storage rooms, but exhaust systems could transfer air from these spaces into the machine room to be exhausted.	Approx. 2002
All elevators in a building using the same key for firefighters emergency operation	Beginning of requirement for all elevators in a building with stand-by power and firefighters emergency operation key switches to use the <b>same key</b> when a new elevator with stand-by power or firefighters emergency operation is installed or where a mod to an existing elevator refers to ASME A17.1, 211.8.	June 2002 Comm 18
Residential elevators in places of worship.	End of allowance to install a Part V or Residential elevator in a place of worship. Residentials in commercial buildings only by petition for variance for demonstration purposes only or where a LULA is infeasible. An existing Part V or Residential in a commercial building may be replaced with the same.	June 2002 Comm 18
Building code change	1st adoption of ICC codes including International Building Code, replaced Wisconsin Building Code	June 2002 Comm 60-64
In Case of Fire lobby signage	1st requirement for the signage. The pictograph in A17.1 appendix was non-mandatory.	June 2002 Comm 60-64 IBC 3002.3
Change to adopted ASME A17.1 and A18.1	Adoption of ASME A17.1 ( <b>2000</b> ), National Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators and ASME A18.1 ( <b>2001</b> ) Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts.	March 2004 Comm 18.1005
Elevator car handrails	Beginning of allowance for elevator cars to be without handrails. Handrails in existing elevators may be removed.	March 2004 Comm 18.1003(1)(b) 1.
Hydraulic elevator oil return pumps	Beginning of allowance to remove hydraulic elevator oil return pumps with the written permission of the owner to be kept in the maintenance record. Removal required installation of a means to collect oil.	March 2004 Comm 18.1003(1)(b) 2.
In-ground jack and piping tests, applicable date	Beginning of requirement to perform relief and static testing of in-ground hydraulic jacks or piping having original installation contract date prior to January 1, <b>1975</b> (single bottom jacks).	March 2004 Comm 18.1708(3)
Change to adopted ASME	Adoption of ASME A17.1 ( <b>2007</b> ), National Safety Code for	December 2008

A17.1 and A18.1	Elevators and Escalators and ASME A18.1 (2005) Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts.	Comm 18.1005
In-ground jack and piping tests, applicable date	Change to age of elevators required to have relief and static tests of in-ground hydraulic jacks or piping. Beginning of requirement to test all with original installation contract date prior to January 1, 1994 (double bottom jacks not in PVC or similar protection).	December 2008 Comm 18.1708(8)(b)
All elevators in a building using the same key for firefighters emergency operation	Change to requirement for all elevators in a building with stand-by power and firefighters emergency operation key switches to use the same key of Group 3 security when a new elevator with stand-by power or firefighters emergency operation is installed or where a mod to an existing elevator refers to ASME A17.1, 211.8.	December 2008 Comm 18
Single family dwellings, elevators and dumbwaiters	Beginning of regulation of new elevators and dumbwaiters installed to serve single family dwellings, based on date of contract.	December 2008 Comm 18
In Case of Fire lobby signage	The pictograph that had been in A17.1 appendix was moved to 2.27.9 and became mandatory however the department has accepted alternative designs that include the required message in a similar format.	December 2008 Comm 18
<b>Department name changed to Safety and Professional Services (DSPS). A "3" was added to all the former Commerce Code numbers. Elevator Code was renamed SPS 318</b>		July 1, 2011
Change to adopted ASME A17.1 and A18.1	Adoption of ASME A17.1 (2013), National Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators and ASME A18.1 (2011) Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts.	August 2014 SPS 318.1005
New product approval	Beginning of recognition of ASME A17.7 -2007 Performance Based Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.	August 2014 SPS 318
Lobby key box	First requirement for the key box containing the machine room or ITP key, FEO keys and possibly other keys to be at the designated level landing only. End to allowance for the box to be at another approved location instead.	August 2014 SPS 318.1702(9)(c)
Standard FEO-K1 keys	Change to requirement for all elevators in a building with stand-by power and firefighters emergency operation key switches to use the FEO-K1 key when a new elevator with stand-by power or firefighters emergency operation is installed or where a mod to an existing elevator refers to ASME A17.1, 211.8.	August 2014 SPS 318
Door restrictors, unlocking zone	Change to requirement for maximum unlocking zone from 18" to 7" above and below each floor. Strict enforcement on new installations began January 1, 2016 however all new installs with contract date on or after September 1, 2014 are required to comply by the time of their first annual inspection of 2016.	August 2014 SPS 318
Testing of firefighters emergency operation key switches	Change from monthly to quarterly for test of FEO Phase I key switches.	August 2014 SPS 318
Door restrictors, unlocking	Beginning of enforcement of maximum 7" unlocking zone	January 1, 2016

zone	on all new installations however all new installations with contract date on or after September 1, 2014 were required to comply with the 7" unlocking zone requirement by their first annual inspection of 2016.	
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