



The Insider

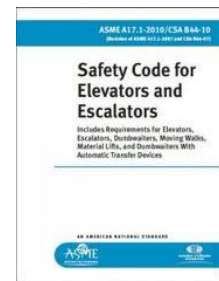
National Elevator Industry, Inc.

Aug 23, 2011

Welcome to the second edition of "The Insider", the new e-newsletter from the National Elevator Industry, Inc. (*NEII*®), where we keep you informed about the latest issues and trends affecting the building transportation industry. In this issue, we discuss *NEII*'s position on the adoption of the latest ASME A17.1-2010/CSA B44-10 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators.

WHAT IS THE CODE?

The ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators is a state-of-the-art code, widely used throughout North America to ensure a uniform, high level of safety for all equipment under its jurisdiction. The code is developed and refined by hundreds of experienced experts representing all aspects of the elevator industry and updated regularly to include important enhancements covering the latest emerging technologies in the field.



Furthermore, the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 is put through a unique code development process consisting of a thorough consensus-building protocol which invites examination of proposed code language and the opportunity to comment on and suggest modifications to such language. Along with a thorough public review, this transparent development process ensures that all issues are examined in great depth, with any shortcomings fully addressed before the latest version of the code is published.

The code also draws from experienced professionals around the industry, including enforcing authorities, design experts, inspectors, building owners, elevator consultants and others, and pays particular attention to requirements for installation and ongoing maintenance including acceptance and periodic inspections and tests. The resulting code represents the most technologically advanced in the industry to assure the safety and wellbeing of the riding public.

EFFECT ON SAFETY

NEII widely regards the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 as the most effective way of ensuring the safety of the riding public as well as elevator personnel,

and encourages the adoption of the most recent version of the code without modification in all jurisdictions to ensure a uniform high level of safety throughout North America.

One of this code's greatest strengths is that it accounts for the newly emerging technologies such as destination dispatch systems and machine room-less elevators, and rapidly paced innovation that have helped to revolutionize modern buildings. By including language and provisions for streamlined acceptance of these new technologies without sacrificing any focus on safety, the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 encourages innovation rather than stifling it.

The vast majority of jurisdictions across the U.S. and Canada have already adopted an earlier version of the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators. The next step for all of us in the industry is to continue to encourage our state or local jurisdiction to ensure that they are updating their codes to the most recent versions in order to address the most contemporary industry issues. To encourage the adoption of the most recent codes in your jurisdiction, you should contact the state elevator board in your state or write to the state regulatory agency.

For help identifying the correct authority in your state, you can email *NEII's* dedicated Government Affairs Consultant, Amy Blankenbiller directly [here](#). Again, *NEII* strongly encourages every jurisdiction to adopt the 2010 edition of the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 to ensure the most advanced safety for the riding public and elevator personnel.

To learn more, check out *NEII's* [position paper on the adoption of the ASME A17.1-2010/CSA B44-10](#), published earlier this year and available online, highlighting some of the key improvements updated in the latest version of the code which became effective June 30, 2011.

Have a comment or question for the experts? Want to submit a topic for a future issue of the newsletter? Send us your thoughts at theinsider@NEII.org to keep the conversation going!



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