



# The Insider

National Elevator Industry, Inc.

January 16, 2013

## **NEII Regulatory and Legislative Efforts in 2013**

The National Elevator Industry, Inc. (NEII®) congratulates you on your election and welcomes you to the 2013 legislative session. We are committed to working with you to maintain and improve elevator and escalator safety and efficiency when issues impacting the building transportation industry arise in your state.

### **WHO IS NEII?**

NEII is the national trade association for firms that install, maintain, modernize and/or manufacture elevators, escalators and other building transportation products. NEII members include the major elevator companies in the U.S., if not the world, and represent more than 80 percent of the hours worked within the industry. NEII promotes safe building transportation for new and existing products and technologies. We work with stakeholders on the formation, adoption and enforcement of the latest building transportation codes, standards and industry policies.



### **THE INDUSTRY**

Elevators and escalators are some of the most commonly used forms of transportation in the U.S. There are more than 900,000 elevators making an estimated 18 billion passenger trips and 35,000 escalators transporting 105 billion passengers each year across the country. The elevator industry is present in all fifty states, representing over 25,000 American jobs and supporting hundreds of thousands of positions in affiliate industries. These include architecture, construction, electrical and shipping.

### **KEY POLICY ISSUES**

#### Professional License Requirements

NEII promotes state licensing requirements for elevator contractors, mechanics and inspectors. Elevator professionals should be required to demonstrate knowledge, skills and abilities specific to their role when they apply and renew their licenses. NEII encourages this best practice in every state.

#### Updated Construction Codes

The most effective way to ensure the safety of the riding public and elevator personnel in North America is to adopt the latest version of the bi-national (US & Canada) model safety code for elevators and escalators (ASME

A17.1/CSA B44) without amendment. This state-of-the-art code is updated every three years to account for the latest advancements in safety and efficiency. The most recent version will be finalized in 2013.

### Technical Advisory Boards

*NEII* encourages the establishment of state Elevator Safety Boards to help legislative and regulatory agencies in addressing the complicated issues facing our industry. These boards should have a diverse membership made up of elevator companies, elevator mechanics, building owners and other industry stakeholders offering thorough advice and recommendations on a variety of issues including permits, licenses, education, training and enforcement.

### Inspection and Testing Requirements

To ensure equipment has been installed and is operating safely, *NEII* supports state rules governing the types and frequency of inspections and testing. The current code recommends that equipment be inspected and tested at least once annually.

### Funding

*NEII* recognizes the fiscal constraints faced by many states. Our industry is ready to work with states to develop an appropriate funding structure for elevator programs critical to the safety of the public and industry personnel.

## **NEII'S VALUABLE RESOURCES**



*NEII* has expert members and staff who are available when building transportation issues arise within your state. We can help develop legislative solutions, provide technical information and meet with you to discuss how best to address any questions or concerns. Please contact Amy Blankenbiller at the *NEII* Government Affairs office at 785-286-7599 or [ajblankenbiller@neii.org](mailto:ajblankenbiller@neii.org) for assistance.

## **"THE INSIDER"**

This e-newsletter allows *NEII* to share its extensive industry knowledge on key topics with a broad group of stakeholders. "The Insider" will keep you informed about the latest subjects and trends affecting the industry. Moreover, it offers a forum for various perspectives and helps identify ways we can come together to improve building transportation in North America.

We encourage you to keep this complimentary subscription and be an industry "Insider" with access to *NEII*'s comprehensive network of building industry professionals.

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](mailto:theinsider@NEII.org) to keep the conversation going!



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