



## **The Insider: Who Is NEII®, Legislative Edition**

The National Elevator Industry, Inc. (NEII) congratulates you on your recent election and welcomes you to the 2015 legislative session. NEII is committed to working with you 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's membership includes the major elevator companies in the United States, if not the world, and represents more than eighty percent of the hours worked within the industry. NEII promotes safe building transportation for new and existing products and technologies and works with stakeholders on the formation, adoption and enforcement of the latest building transportation codes, standards and industry policies.



### **The Industry**

Elevators and escalators are one of the most commonly used forms of transportation in the United States. There are more than 900,000 elevators across the country making an estimated 18 billion passenger trips and approximately 35,000 escalators transporting 105 billion passengers per year. The elevator industry is present in all fifty states, representing over 25,000 American jobs and supports hundreds of thousands of positions in affiliate industries such as supply, architecture, construction, electrical and shipping.

### **Key Policy Issues**

#### Updated Building Transportation 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 of the code was published in November 2013.

#### 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 to raise

safety and performance levels nationwide.

### Appropriate State Compliance and Enforcement

In any industry with highly technical and complicated machinery such as ours, proper compliance and enforcement of state safety regulations is crucial. In many states, however, our industry faces the challenges of inconsistent regulatory interpretation and enforcement. *NEII* is actively working with state agencies and elevator boards across the country to ensure that code compliance requirements are appropriate, interpretations are consistent and enforcement is undertaken in a uniform manner between state officials and all regulated entities.

### Funding

*NEII* recognizes the fiscal constraints faced by many states. Our industry works with states to develop appropriate funding structures to support the elevator programs that are so critical to the safety of the riding public and industry personnel.

### **Valuable Industry Resources**

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

### **"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 will provide a forum to consider various perspectives and 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 our comprehensive network of building industry professionals.

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### **National Elevator Industry, Inc.**

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