

Aerial Ropeways (Operation and Maintenance)
(Amendment) Regulation 2003
(Made under section 28 of the Aerial Ropeways (Safety)
Ordinance (Cap. 211))

1. Commencement

This Regulation shall come into operation on a day to be appointed by the Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands by notice published in the Gazette.

2. Interpretation

Regulation 2 of the Aerial Ropeways (Operation and Maintenance) Regulations (Cap. 211 sub. leg. A) is amended by adding---

"carrying-hauling rope" (運載拖纜) means a rope that is powered by a drive system and is designed, manufactured or used to perform both the functions of a hauling rope and a track rope;

"hauling rope" (牽引纜) means a rope that is powered by a drive system and is designed, manufactured or used solely for hauling carriers on an aerial ropeway;

"track rope" (導軌纜) means a rope that is designed, manufactured or used solely for supporting carriers on an aerial ropeway;"

3. Application

Regulation 3 is repealed.

4. Records to be kept

Regulation 7 is amended---

(a) in paragraph (1), by repealing "本" and substituting "份";

(b) in paragraph (1)(g)(iii), by repealing "detachable grips" and substituting "a grip";

(c) in paragraph (2)(a)(ii) and (iv), by repealing "副本" and substituting "文本".

5. Certain occurrences to be reported

Regulation 12(1)(d) is amended by repealing "detachable".

6. Operation in inclement weather

Regulation 15 is amended---

(a) by adding before paragraph (1)---

"(1A) The Director may---

(a) specify the wind speed limit for the safe operation of an aerial ropeway; and
(b) specify different wind speed limits for different aerial ropeways.";

(b) in paragraph (1), by repealing everything before subparagraph (b) and substituting---

"(1) Where the wind speed exceeds the specified wind speed limit applicable to an aerial ropeway, the controller on duty shall---

(a) stop the operation of the ropeway after all the passengers being carried on it have been carried to the nearest station at which transport is available; and".

7. Maintenance schedules

Regulation 19(1) is amended---

(a) in subparagraph (a), by repealing "and cables";

(b) in subparagraph (c), by adding ", braking systems" before "and generators";

(c) in subparagraph (f), by repealing "detachable".

8. Annual and quarterly examinations

Regulation 20 is amended---

(a) in paragraph (2), by repealing "(3)" and substituting "(3A)";

(b) in paragraph (3)---

(i) by repealing "For the purposes of paragraphs (1) and (2) the surveyor or competent person shall examine" and substituting "The examinations for the purposes of paragraph (1) are examinations of";

(ii) in subparagraph (a), by adding ", hauling rope and track rope" after "rope";

(iii) in subparagraph (b), by repealing "detachable";

(c) by adding---

"(3A) The examinations for the purposes of paragraph (2) are the examinations referred to in paragraph (3) but does not include any visual examination or defectograph readings over the carrying-hauling rope, hauling rope or track rope.";

(d) in paragraph (4), by adding "or (3A)" after "(3)".

9. Prohibition on use of certain ropes

Regulation 21(a) is repealed and the following substituted---

"(a) if the diameter of the rope has been reduced by 10 per cent or more of its diameter at the time it was first installed; or".

10. Regulations substituted

Regulations 22 and 23 are repealed and the following substituted---

"22. Visual examination of carrying-hauling rope and hauling rope by competent person

(1) Subject to paragraph (2) and regulation 23(2), the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway that has a carrying-hauling rope or hauling rope shall examine the rope visually---

(a) prior to the commencement of operation; and

(b) where the ropeway has been put into operation, at intervals not exceeding 30 days, but the examination shall not be carried out on a day on which a surveyor carries out a visual examination or takes defectograph readings in respect of the rope under

regulation 20.

(2) Where deterioration or other changes affecting the strength of the carrying-hauling rope or hauling rope have set in, the Director may require the competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway to examine the rope visually at such other times as the Director may determine.

(3) The competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway shall ensure that, at the time the examination is carried out under paragraph (1) or (2), the carrying-hauling rope or hauling rope is run at a speed not exceeding 0.3 m a second.

(4) The owner of an aerial ropeway shall ensure that a report of every examination required to be carried out under this regulation, prepared by the competent person carrying out the examination, is sent to the Director as soon as reasonably possible after the examination is completed.

23. Examination of carrying-hauling rope and hauling rope by competent person

(1) Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway that has a carrying-hauling rope or hauling rope shall examine the rope with a defectograph at least once every 3 months, but the examination shall not be carried out on a day on which a surveyor carries out a visual examination or takes defectograph readings in respect of the rope under regulation 20.

(2) Where a carrying-hauling rope or hauling rope of an aerial ropeway has been subjected to---

- (a) stoppage due to faulty unclamping of a grip;
- (b) derailment; or

(c) any occurrence which may have damaged the rope, the competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway shall, as soon as reasonably possible after the stoppage, derailment or occurrence, examine the rope both visually and with a defectograph.

(3) Without affecting paragraph (2), the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway that has a carrying-hauling rope or hauling rope shall examine the rope with a defectograph---

- (a) on the completion of the splicing of the rope for the commencement of operation of the aerial ropeway;
- (b) within the first 50 hours of the operation of the rope;
- (c) after the shortening of the rope or any other splicing operation; and
- (d) at such other times or in such other circumstances as the Director may require.

(4) Where the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway---

(a) takes defectograph readings under paragraph (3)(a) or (b), he shall send a full copy of the readings to the Director within 3 days after taking them;

(b) takes defectograph readings under paragraph (2)(c) or (3)(c) or (d), and the readings show, in relation to any section of the rope, a change from the last readings for that section, he shall send a full copy of the new readings to the Director within 3 days after taking them, together with a full copy of the last readings.

(5) The owner of an aerial ropeway shall ensure that a report of every examination required to be carried out under this regulation, other than an examination required to be carried out under paragraph (2)(c) or (3), prepared by the competent person carrying out the examination, is sent to the Director as soon as reasonably possible after the examination is completed.

23A. Examination of track rope by competent person

(1) Subject to paragraphs (2), (3) and (4), the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway that has a track rope shall examine the rope---

(a) visually at least once every 3 months; and

(b) with a defectograph at least once every 6 months,

but the examination shall not be carried out on a day on which a surveyor carries out a visual examination or takes defectograph readings in respect of the rope under regulation 20.

(2) The Director may require a visual examination under paragraph (1) to be carried out at any time if he considers that such an examination is necessary due to the condition of the aerial ropeway or any part of the aerial ropeway.

(3) Where a track rope of an aerial ropeway has been subjected to---

(a) derailment; or

(b) any occurrence which may have damaged the rope,

the competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway shall, as soon as reasonably possible after the derailment or occurrence, examine the rope both visually and by means of a defectograph.

(4) Without affecting paragraph (3), the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway that has a track rope shall examine the rope with a defectograph---

(a) after the rope is shifted; and

(b) at such other times or in such other circumstances as the Director may require.

(5) Where the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway---

(a) takes defectograph readings under paragraph (4)(a), he shall send a full copy of the readings to the Director within 3 days after taking them;

(b) takes defectograph readings under paragraph (3)(b) or (4)(b), and the readings

show, in relation to any section of the rope, a change from the last readings for that section, he shall send a full copy of the new readings to the Director within 3 days after taking them, together with a full copy of the last readings.

(6) The owner of an aerial ropeway shall ensure that a report of every examination required to be carried out under this regulation, other than an examination required to be carried out under paragraph (3)(b) or (4), prepared by the competent person carrying out the examination, is sent to the Director as soon as reasonably possible after the examination is completed."

11. Prohibition on spliced rope

Regulation 24 is amended by repealing everything after "such ropeway" and substituting---

"---

- (a) a carrying-hauling rope that contains more than 2 splices;
- (b) a hauling rope that contains more than 2 splices; or
- (c) a track rope that contains any splice."

12. Counterweight and counterweight travel

Regulation 25(1) is amended---

- (a) by adding "on which a counterweight is used" after "ropeway";
- (b) in subparagraph (a), by repealing "the carrying-hauling rope" and substituting "every rope the tension of which is regulated by it";
- (c) in subparagraph (c)---
 - (i) by adding ", in any case," after "does not";
 - (ii) by repealing "under the worst operational conditions".

13. Regulation added

The following is added---

"25A. Rope tensioning device other than counterweight

(1) The competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway on which a rope tensioning device (other than a counterweight) is used shall ensure that---

- (a) the device keeps every rope the tension of which is regulated by it under constant tension;
- (b) the device has clear and unobstructed travel;
- (c) the device does not, in any case, reach or travel beyond either travel limits;
- (d) sufficient clearance is provided and maintained between the device and the 2 travel limits, at all times; and
- (e) the device is, at all times, able to function effectively in every other respect.

(2) The competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway shall ensure that the ropeway is not operated if the rope tensioning device does not satisfy a requirement

specified in paragraph (1)(a), (b), (c), (d) or (e).

(3) The controller on duty shall inspect the device every day before the commencement of operation of the ropeway."

14. Cars

Regulation 26(1)(c) is amended by repealing "170" and substituting "130".

15. Offences and penalties relating to competent persons

Regulation 39 is amended by repealing "23(1), (2) or (3), 24, 25(1) or (3)" and substituting "23(1), (2), (3) or (4), 23A(1), (2), (3), (4) or (5), 24, 25(1) or (3), 25A(1) or (2)".

16. Offences and penalties relating to controllers

Regulation 40 is amended by adding ", 25A(3)" after "25(2)".

17. Offences and penalties relating to owners

Regulation 41 is amended by adding "22(4), 23(5), 23A(6)," before "26(1)".

18. Offences and penalties relating to surveyors and others

Regulation 42 is amended---

(a) in paragraph (1), by repealing "of \$10,000" and substituting "at level 3";

(b) in paragraph (2), by repealing "of \$2,000" and substituting "at level 1";

(c) in paragraph (3), by repealing "of \$1,000" and substituting "at level 1".

19. Third Schedule substituted

The Third Schedule is repealed and the following substituted---

"THIRD SCHEDULE [regs. 39, 40, 41 & 43]

Penalties for Offences

PART I

Competent Person

Additional fine

for each day on

Period of which the offence

Regulation	Fine	imprisonment	continues
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7(1)	level 1	3 months	
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7(2)	level 1	3 months	
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7(3)	level 1	3 months	
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7(4)	level 1	3 months	
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8(4)	level 2	6 months	
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18	level 2	6 months	\$50
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19(1)	level 1	3 months	
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19(3)	level 1	3 months	
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19(4) level 2 6 months
20(2) level 2 6 months
20(4) level 2 6 months
21 level 2 6 months \$50
22(1) level 2 6 months
22(2) level 2 6 months
22(3) level 2 6 months
23(1) level 2 6 months
23(2) level 2 6 months
23(3) level 2 6 months
23(4) level 1 3 months
23A(1) level 2 6 months
23A(2) level 2 6 months
23A(3) level 2 6 months
23A(4) level 2 6 months
23A(5) level 1 3 months
24 level 2 6 months \$50
25(1) level 2 6 months \$50
25(3) level 2 6 months \$50
25A(1) level 2 6 months \$50
25A(2) level 2 6 months \$50
31(3) level 2 6 months
32(1) level 2 6 months
32(2) level 2 6 months
32(3) level 2 6 months
33 level 2 6 months \$50
34(1) level 2 6 months
35 level 2 6 months
36(1) level 2 6 months
36(2) level 2 6 months
36(3) level 2 6 months

PART II

Controller

Additional fine

for each day on

Period of which the offence

Regulation Fine imprisonment continues

10 level 2 6 months

11 level 2 6 months
12(1) level 1 3 months
13(1) level 2 6 months
14 level 2 6 months
15(1) level 2 6 months
15(3) level 2 6 months
25(2) level 2 6 months
25A(3) level 2 6 months
27(1) level 2 6 months

PART III

Owner

Additional fine
for each day on

Period of which the offence

Regulation Fine imprisonment continues

6(1) level 3 6 months
6(3) level 3 6 months
8(1) level 3 6 months \$100
8(3) level 3 6 months
16 level 5 2 years
17 level 4 1 year \$500
20(1) level 5 2 years
20(4) level 4 1 year
20(5) level 3 6 months
22(4) level 3 6 months
23(5) level 3 6 months
23A(6) level 3 6 months
26(1) level 4 1 year \$500
26(2) level 2
27(2) level 3 6 months
28 level 5 2 years \$1,000
29(a) level 3 \$100
29(b) level 3 \$100
29(c) level 2
29(d) level 2
29(e) level 4 1 year \$500
30 level 2
31(1) level 5 2 years \$1,000

31(2) level 5 2 years \$1,000

37(1) level 2

37(2) level 2

38 level 3 6 months

PART IV

Owner

Additional fine

for each day on

Period of which the offence

Regulation Fine imprisonment continues

7(1) level 3 6 months

7(2) level 3 6 months

7(3) level 3 6 months

7(4) level 3 6 months

8(4) level 3 6 months

18 level 4 1 year \$500

19(1) level 3 6 months

19(3) level 3 6 months

19(4) level 4 1 year

20(2) level 4 1 year

20(4) level 4 1 year

21 level 5 2 years \$1,000

22(1) level 4 1 year

22(2) level 4 1 year

22(3) level 4 1 year

23(1) level 4 1 year

23(2) level 4 1 year

23(3) level 4 1 year

23(4) level 3 6 months

23A(1) level 4 1 year

23A(2) level 4 1 year

23A(3) level 4 1 year

23A(4) level 4 1 year

23A(5) level 3 6 months

24 level 5 2 years \$1,000

25(1) level 4 1 year \$500

25(3) level 4 1 year \$500

25A(1) level 4 1 year \$500

25A(2) level 4 1 year \$500
31(3) level 3 6 months
32(1) level 4 1 year
32(2) level 4 1 year
32(3) level 4 1 year
33 level 4 1 year \$500
34(1) level 4 1 year
35 level 4 1 year
36(1) level 4 1 year
36(2) level 4 1 year
36(3) level 4 1 year

PART V

Owner

Additional fine

for each day on

Period of which the offence

Regulation Fine imprisonment continues

10 level 4 1 year
11 level 5 1 year
12(1) level 3 6 months
13(1) level 4 1 year
14 level 4 1 year
15(1) level 4 1 year
15(3) level 4 1 year
25(2) level 4 1 year
25A(3) level 4 1 year
27(1) level 4 1 year".

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Secretary for Housing,

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30 April 2003

Explanatory Note

The main purpose of this Regulation is to amend the Aerial Ropeways (Operation and Maintenance) Regulations (Cap. 211 sub. leg. A) ("the Regulations") so that the Regulations apply to monocable ropeways as well as ropeways of other designs. In addition to aerial ropeways with carrying-hauling ropes, the Regulations as amended will cover aerial ropeways with hauling ropes or track ropes.

2. For better clarity, the terms "carrying-hauling rope", "hauling rope" and "track

rope" are defined in section 2.

3. Section 3 repeals regulation 3 so that the Regulations as amended apply not only to monocable ropeways but also to ropeways of other designs.

4. Section 6 seeks to amend regulation 15. Regulation 15 as amended empowers the Director of the Electrical and Mechanical Services to specify the wind speed limit for the safe operation of an aerial ropeway and to specify different wind speed limits for different aerial ropeways. Where the wind speed exceeds the specified wind speed limit applicable to an aerial ropeway, the controller on duty shall stop the operation of the ropeway.

5. Section 10 replaces regulations 22 and 23 with new provisions. New regulation 22 requires a carrying-hauling rope or a hauling rope to be examined visually by the competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway, and new regulation 23 requires the rope to be examined by means of a defectograph by the competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway. That section also adds a new regulation 23A to the Regulations. The new regulation requires a track rope to be examined visually and by means of a defectograph by the competent person in charge of the aerial ropeway. In view of the introduction of these new provisions, regulation 20 needs to be amended consequentially. (see section 8)

6. Section 11 amends regulation 24 and further prohibits the using of a hauling rope that contains more than 2 splices and a track rope that contains any splice.

7. Section 12 amends regulation 25(1) so that the regulation is also applicable in relation to a counterweight used for regulating the tension of a rope other than a carrying-hauling rope. Section 12 also modifies regulation 25(1)(c) to clarify that a competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway has a duty to ensure that the counterweight does not, in any case, touch or rest on the bottom of the counterweight space.

8. Section 13 adds a new regulation 25A to the Regulations. The new regulation imposes duties on the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway so as to make sure that a rope tensioning device other than a counterweight is safe for operation. It also imposes a duty on the controller on duty to inspect the device daily before the ropeway commences operation.

9. Section 14 amends regulation 26(1)(c) to the effect that the owner of an aerial ropeway may not permit the operation of any car on the ropeway if the car has any opening which exceeds 130 mm in width.

10. Section 15 amends regulation 39, making it an offence for a contravention by the competent person in charge of an aerial ropeway of the new regulation 23(1), (2), (3) or (4), 23A(1), (2), (3), (4) or (5) or 25A(1) or (2). Section 16 amends regulation 40, making it an offence for a failure by the controller to comply with a requirement

under the new regulation 25A(3). Section 17 amends regulation 41, making the contravention of the new regulation 22(4), 23(5) or 23A(6) by the owner of an aerial ropeway an offence. Section 19 repeals the Third Schedule to the Regulations and replaces it with a new Schedule. The new Third Schedule is the same as the one repealed except that it also specifies the penalties for the new offences and that all fines (other than daily fines) previously expressed in terms of amounts of money are expressed in terms of levels.

11. Sections 4, 5, 7, 9 and 18 make minor amendments and drafting improvements to regulations 7, 12(1)(d), 19(1), 21(a) and 42.