

**HKIE**THE HONG KONG  
INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS  
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14 July 2011

Clerk to Bills Committee  
Bills Committee on Lifts and Escalators Bill  
Legislative Council Secretariat  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Citibank Tower  
3 Garden Road, Central  
Hong Kong

(Attn: Ms Iris CHEUNG)

Dear Ms Cheung,

**LegCo Bills Committee on Lifts and Escalators Bill –  
Views on the Lifts and Escalators Bill**

Thank you for your letter of 24 June 2011 inviting the Institution to put forth our views on the captioned subject.

In response to your invitation, we are pleased to provide herewith our views and suggestions on the subject for your consideration.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Ir Dr CHAN Fuk Cheung  
President  
The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers

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**Enclosure**

**Legislative Council**  
**Bills Committee on Lifts and Escalators Bill**  
**Views from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers on the**  
**Lifts and Escalators Bill**

**General**

The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) has previously submitted views to the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department on its proposal on Qualifications of Registered Lift Engineers (R.L.E.s) in May 2009. In response to the proposal in using Registered Professional Engineers (R.P.E.s) as qualifications for registration as R.L.E.s, in spite of the general support to the proposal, there were some views and recommendations that the Institution wishes to take this opportunity to reiterate as follows:

**Recommendations**

2. The Institution is of the view that in practice, the roles of Registered Contractors and R.L.E.s are confused and not distinct. Many R.L.E.s are employed under Registered Contractors and hence it is concerned on whether they could act on independently.
3. If R.P.E.s were to take up the role of R.L.E.s, there would be a need to strengthen the personnel requirements of the Registered Contractors to ensure that lift maintenance and inspections of the Registered Contractors be supported by qualified staff.
4. The Institution advocates the stepping up of quality assurance system check for all lifts to 100%.
5. A Quality Assurance Audit System (covering both technical audit on inspection method and system audit on lift companies) should be introduced on top of the current Registered Contractors and R.L.E.s mechanism. This additional quality assurance check should be led and conducted by professional engineers (R.P.E.s) to assure the overall lift safety performance.
6. The HKIE also suggests the Administration to explore whether legislation could be established in mandating compulsory third party liability insurance cover by lift maintenance contractors in terms of lift safety. This could form an incentive in compelling the contractors to strictly observe the laws and codes of practice in lift safety.
7. Last but not least, it is proposed that in addition to the four existing R.P.E. disciplines (Mechanical, Electrical, Electronics and Building Services), Building, Marine & Naval Architecture and Materials engineering disciplines should also be included as the relevant disciplines for R.L.E.s.