

Code of practice for

Safe working on escalators and passenger conveyors in use

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Committees responsible for this British Standard

The preparation of this British Standard was entrusted to Technical Committee MHE/4, Lifts, hoists and escalators, upon which the following bodies were represented:

- Associated Offices Technical Committee
- Association of District Councils
- British Broadcasting Corporation
- British Lift Association
- British Railways Board
- British Retail Consortium
- British Telecommunications plc
- Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers
- Department of the Environment
- Department of Trade and Industry (Standards Policy Unit)
- Electrical, Electronic, Telecommunications and Plumbing Union
- Engineer Surveyors Section of the MSF
- Health and Safety Executive
- Independant Engineering Insurers Committee
- Institution of Electrical Engineers
- Institution of Environmental Health Officers
- Institution of Incorporated Executive Engineers
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers
- Institution of Plant Engineers
- Lloyd’s Register of Shipping
- London Underground Ltd.
- National Association of Lift Makers
- Post Office
- Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation

The following body was also represented in the drafting of the standard through a subcommittee:

- Engineering Employers Federation

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Foreword

This British Standard has been prepared under the direction of the Engineering Sector Board at the request of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE).

The HSE commends the use of this British Standard to those who have duties under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The British Standard was drawn up with the participation of HSE representatives and it will be referred to in relevant HSE Publications.

As a code of practice, this British Standard takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification and particular care should be taken to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

A British Standard does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users of British Standards are responsible for their correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard does not of itself confer immunity from legal obligations.

In particular, attention is drawn to Annex A which summarizes the legal responsibilities for the safety of persons working on an escalator or passenger conveyor (i.e. those parties identified in the introduction) and gives the titles of additional UK legislation which might be applicable.

Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, an inside front cover, pages i and ii, pages 1 to 12, an inside back cover and a back cover.

This standard has been updated (see copyright date) and may have had amendments incorporated. This will be indicated in the amendment table on the inside front cover.

Introduction

The safety of persons working on escalators and passenger conveyors is the responsibility of all persons associated with such work, particularly:

- a) the employers and supervisors of those persons working on escalators and passenger conveyor(s);
- b) the persons working on escalators and passenger conveyors;
- c) persons who have control of premises containing the escalator(s) or passenger conveyor(s);
- d) other persons also working in the premises containing the escalator(s) or passenger conveyor;

and will largely be dependent upon the care and attention being paid by those parties to the provisions and procedures described in this British Standard as appropriate to them.

The effectiveness of such safe working procedures will be substantially improved if persons working on escalators and passenger conveyors are able to benefit from features which are inherent to machinery manufactured/installed in accordance with the current British Standard BS EN 115 or the obsolescent/partially obsolescent British Standard BS 2655-4, BS 2655-7 and BS 2655-8.

A crucial element in securing safe working is the initial training given to personnel, backed by subsequent experience and additional training for particular aspects of the work.

All persons working on escalators and passenger conveyors are expected to pay due care and attention to potential hazards, make proper use of safeguards provided and follow defined working procedures if accidents and ill health are to be avoided; this is particularly important as those working on an escalator or passenger conveyor are likely to be working in areas not accessible to passengers and will not therefore be fully protected by those safeguards built into an escalator or passenger conveyor for the benefit of passengers.

1 Scope

This British Standard recommends safe working practices (supported by training) for those responsible for, and involved in the examination, inspection, testing, service/maintenance and repair of escalators and passenger conveyors. This British Standard also recommends provisions intended to ensure a safe working environment.

This British Standard does not address the specific hazards associated with the installation and dismantling of escalators and passenger conveyors.

This British Standard applies to all escalators and passenger conveyors irrespective of the type of drive machinery employed and not solely for those escalators or passenger conveyors which have been made to established British Standards for construction and installation, i.e. BS 2655-4, BS 2655-7 and BS 2655-8 and BS EN 115.

The recommendations relate to the safety of persons when gaining access to and from the work area on an escalator or passenger conveyor installation and while working there; they also relate to the safety of others in the vicinity, whether working or not, who may be endangered by the actions of those working on escalators or passenger conveyors.

Annex B lists other British Standards and other publications related to safety on escalators and passenger conveyors.

2 References

2.1 Normative references

This standard incorporates, by dated or undated reference, provisions from other publications. These normative references are made at the appropriate places in the text and the cited publications are listed on the inside back cover. For dated references, only the edition cited applies; any subsequent amendments to or revisions of the cited publication apply to this standard only when incorporated in the reference by amendment or revision. For undated references, the latest edition of the cited publication applies, together with any amendments.

2.2 Informative reference

This standard refers to another publication that provides information or guidance. An edition of this publication current at the time of issue of this standard is listed on the inside back cover, but reference should be made to the latest edition.

3 Definitions

For the purpose of this standard the following definitions apply:

3.1 authorized person

individual who has:

- a) general escalator or passenger conveyor awareness/training and competency appropriate to their job function; and
- b) been instructed on the detail of the work to be undertaken; and
- c) received authority from the client for the work to be undertaken.

3.2**client**

owner, occupier or person in charge of the premises who commissions work on the escalator or passenger conveyor

3.3**contractor**

employee, or self-employed person, who contracts to undertake work on the escalator or passenger conveyor

3.4**escalator**

power-driven installation forming an endless moving stairway for the conveyance of passengers in the upward or downward direction

3.5**compact escalator**

escalator in which:

- a) the drive machinery is located within the truss; and
- b) all fixed and moving electrical and mechanical parts are contained within the truss; and
- c) access to machinery is gained from the passenger side; and
- d) there is no separate machine room.

3.6**passenger conveyor**

power-driven installation forming an endless moving walkway (e.g. pallets, belt), for the conveyance of passengers either on the same, or between different, traffic levels

3.7**driving station**

area of free space within the truss at the top/drive end of the escalator or passenger conveyor for use by maintenance and inspection personnel

3.8**return station**

area of free space within the truss at the bottom/return end of the escalator or passenger conveyor for use by maintenance and inspection personnel

3.9**machine room**

enclosed area used to house driving and/or control equipment

3.10**floor plate**

removable plate above the area of the escalator or passenger conveyor truss at the top and bottom landings, to provide access to the driving and return stations

3.11**step band**

continuous loop of chain and steps guided along the full length of the escalator

3.12**pallet band**

continuous loop of chain and pallets guided along the full length of the passenger conveyor

3.13**step chain**

continuous chain used to carry steps around the step band

3.14**pallet chain**

continuous chain used to carry pallets around the pallet band

3.15**handrail**

moving part intended to serve as a handhold for the passengers

3.16**combs**

parts which at both landings mesh with the steps, pallets or the belt, in order to facilitate the transition of passengers

3.17**main switch**

switch which breaks the electrical supply to the escalator or passenger conveyor on all live conductors

3.18**auxiliary isolating switch**

switch located in the vicinity of the machine, or in the return station, or in the vicinity of the control devices, which interrupts the supply to the motor without cutting the supply to socket-outlets needed for maintenance and inspection purposes

3.19**inspection control**

portable and manually operated control device for operating the escalator or passenger conveyor during maintenance