

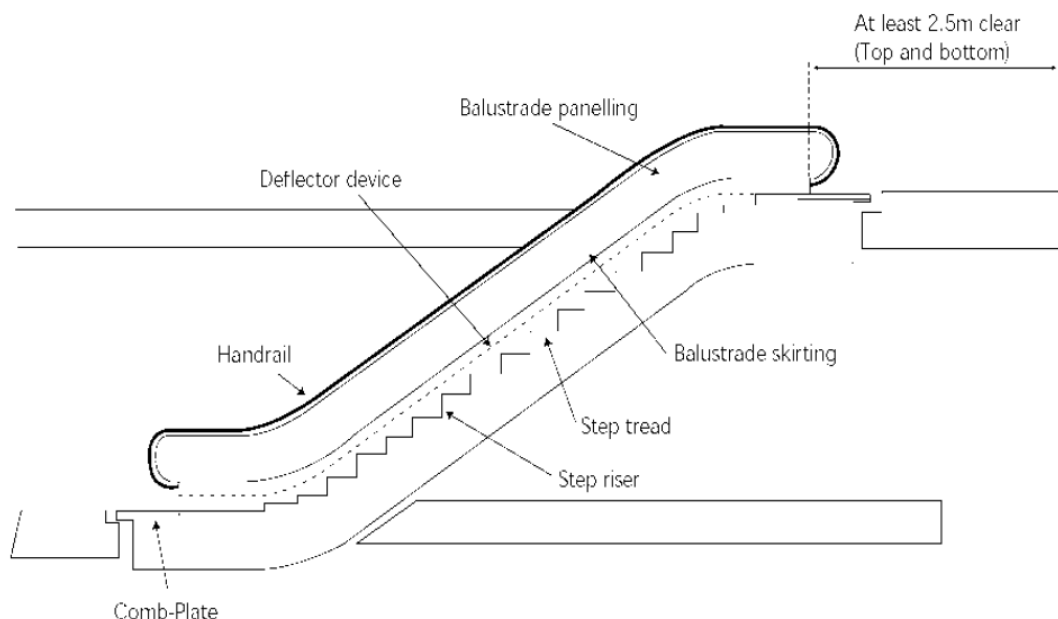
STATION EQUIPMENT MONITORING

ESCALATORS – INSTRUCTION AND INFORMATION

The most common injuries on escalators are brought about by people tripping, falling or becoming trapped. The very young and the elderly are at most risk. Severe trapping injuries to very young children have included amputation, bone fractures and extensive skin tissue and muscle damage. The simple, but essential safety steps given below will help to prevent most accidents on escalators. You may find them useful as a safety check list.

- **STEP 1** Make sure escalators meet current British and European Standards.
- **STEP 2** Make sure correct number and positioning of emergency stopping devices at or near escalator landings.
- **STEP 3** To prevent trapping injuries between the skirting and the moving staircase, make sure that deflectors have been fitted (brush type fixtures which are attached to the skirting panel) and that these are checked for wear and tear. If this is not possible, other precautions should be considered e.g. yellow lines, lighting underneath that reflects up into edges of steps.
- **STEP 4** Keep records of the inspection and maintenance programme for each escalator. A thorough examination must be carried out at least once every six months by a competent person.
- **STEP 5** Appoint an adequately trained person to carry out visual checks of the major safety aspects of each escalator daily, e.g. visual damage to comb plates and stair treads, correct operation of emergency stops and condition and speed of hand rails.
- **STEP 6** Post conspicuous warning / advisory signs at the upper and lower approaches to each escalator – illustrated with pictograms advising passengers to:
 - o “Hold the hand rail”.
 - o “Hold small children firmly”.
 - o “No pushchairs”.
 - o “Keep feet away from sides”.
 - o “No Trolleys, etc”.
- **STEP 7** Provide adequate training, instruction and information to staff to enable them to react promptly in an emergency or if they witness someone misusing the escalator. Request that staff inform management of any accident or “near miss” incident.
- **STEP 8** Check that there is sufficient lighting, particularly at the top and bottom of the escalator.
- **STEP 9** Make sure that approaches to escalators and landings are kept free of obstructions and provide a sufficient unrestricted area at landings to reduce the risk of accident caused by passenger congestion. Minimum 2.5 metres.
- **STEP 10** Position indicator boards to shop departments away from escalator landings so as to avoid shoppers congregating in this area.
- **STEP 11** Avoid the use of stationary escalators where there are other alternatives. Direct people to other means of access, e.g. lifts or stairs where these would clearly be safer.

STATION EQUIPMENT MONITORING



1.1 Instruction for Use

Instructions for safe use of escalators shall be provided and located out of the line of travel to avoid congestion as passengers slow or stop to read them. However they should be sufficiently close to the escalator to enable passengers to recognise the relationship.

1.2 Meeting the Needs of Disabled Passengers

Where practical the following facilities shall be provided for all escalators and passenger conveyors:

- a) Adequate clear signs on the approach.
- b) Clear information on the direction of travel.
- c) Adequate general lighting on all approach and exit areas (200 lux minimum at horizontal floor level).
- d) Comb lights.
- e) Under step lighting where step level changes.
- f) The horizontal and vertical edges to the nosing of all steps to be finished yellow.
- g) The step combs to be finished yellow.
- h) The handrails are to include for colour contrasts dots or similar.
- i) The approach route flooring shall contrast with the surrounding floor in both texture and colour.
- j) Clear approach of 10m to assist with safe use and viewing of information signs.

1.3 Information Signs for Disabled Passengers

- a) 25mm sans serif font, in a mixture of upper and lower case.
- b) Text to contrast with the sign background, which shall contrast against the local background.
- c) Explanatory pictograms are to be additionally provided.
- d) Where practical all signs to be site between 1400mm and 1700mm above finished floor level.
- e) Where not practical a site specific risk assessment is to be undertaken.