



Australian Elevators Association Limited

Issue Date: 5th September 2018

USE OF LIFTS IN AN EMERGENCY

Use of lifts in an emergency

Reference to the ABCB (Australian Building Code Board) document titled “Information Handbook Lifts used During Evacuation 2013”).

This book was developed in consultation with the Australian Elevator Association (AEA) and other parties as an additional solution that enables people (particularly those with a disability or health condition) to egress a building, or part of a building, using lifts.

The objective of safely using lifts for evacuation is not intended to diminish the importance of other evacuation measures such as emergency stairs and is not intended to reduce the number of exits, particularly the number of emergency stairways.

This Information Handbook is to complement the NCC objective of fire safety systems and lift reliability systems needed for the success of an overall evacuation strategy.

ISO has published standards specifically on the requirement for lifts used to assist in building evacuation.

Refer to ISO/TS 18870 - 2014 and ISO/TR 25743 – 2010

ISO/TS 18870 Abstract

ISO/TS 18870:2014 details requirements for passenger carrying lifts, which are installed in buildings having a suitable comprehensive building evacuation strategy. It does not define building requirements that will have to be provided as part of the overall evacuation strategy for the building.

Excluded from ISO/TS 18870:2014 are the following: details of a building evacuation strategy; details of building features to reduce risks or eliminate hazards; national building requirements which might demand special features.

ISO/TR 25743 Abstract

ISO/TR 25743:2010 investigates and highlights the main risks associated with using lifts (elevators) for the evacuation of persons in various types of emergency.

The types of emergency under study arise from fire, flood, earthquake, explosion, biological or chemical attack, gas leakage, lightning or storm damage in the building being studied or a building adjacent to it.

The purpose of ISO/TR 25743:2010 is to provide a process for making decisions relevant to the design of lifts and buildings, in order to determine if a given design can enable the lifts involved to be used with an acceptable level of safety.