

### **Subject: Lifts, Hoists, Vehicle hoists and Car stackers**

There is some confusion as to the distinction between lifts and hoists under the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (WHS Regulation).

*Chapter 1 Preliminary, 5 Definitions*, provides definitions for hoists, lifts, mast climbing work platforms, materials hoists, temporary work platforms, and vehicle hoists.

*Part 1.2 Application, 10 (1B)* prescribes plant that is considered as 'high risk plant', (c) includes lifts, escalators and moving walks.

*Chapter 5* has specific duties for plant and structures, *Parts 5.2 and 5.3 relating to registered plant and plant designs*, namely that they are designed to a published technical standard or engineering principles.

*Schedule 5, Part 1* lists plant requiring registration of design, (specifically)

- 1.4 Lifts, escalators and moving walkways,
- 1.6 Hoist with a platform movement exceeding 2.4 m, designed to lift people,
- 1.13 Vehicle hoists

Although not specified in the WHS Regulation, the following standards provide guidance on the design, manufacture and use.

*Lifts, escalators and moving walks - AS 1735 (series)*

- *Lifts – AS 1735.1 2022*
- *Escalators and Moving Walks – AS 1735.5.1 2019*
- *Hoists are designed under the AS 1418 Series of standards.*

In NSW The **Regulated-Design-Guidance-Material**, which is mandated under the Building and Design Practitioners Regulation 2020, states under - **Design category** - Service hoists, Car Storage Systems (Stackers) and **Minimum requirements for design category** –

**“Vehicle lift capable of carrying passengers must include safety systems in accordance with AS1735”**

To help clarify these definitions the AEA propose the following to assist industry with installing these types of plant in-line with their intended design.

## Industry Position Paper (IPP-03) V1.3

### Industry Definitions

1 – **Hoist**, means an appliance intended for raising or lowering a load or people, and includes, material hoist, platform hoist, serial hoist, but does not include false cars used for lift related work, lifts, vehicle stackers or building maintenance equipment.

Hoists designed to raise or lower people include,

- a) temporary installations, typically in hazardous or rapidly changing work environment, e.g. personnel hoist and mast climbing work platform
- b) lifting appliances integral to machinery for accessing workstations for production, inspection, installation, commissioning, testing or maintenance, e.g. devices for accessing wind turbines or harbour cranes
- c) hoists designed to lift or lower goods, servicing not more than two fixed levels, which require an authorised person to travel in the hoist to load and unload goods, this could include a platform hoist used to raise and lower vehicles (and the authorised operator only).
- d) movable wheelchair hoists designed to provide temporary access to another level for persons with a disability with the maximum speed of not more than 0.15 m/s, these devices may be used by the public.

Note, hoists are not suitable for raising or lowering people in public areas including residences.

**Note:** In NSW it is our opinion that a platform hoist used to raise and lower vehicles and being operated by the driver of the vehicle would therefore be required to meet the statement:

**“Vehicle lift capable of carrying passengers must include safety systems in accordance with AS1735”**

as required by the Regulated-Design-Guidance-Material.

2 – **Lift**, means plant that is permanently installed in or attached to a structure and

- a) in which people, goods or materials may be raised or lowered within a car or cage, or on a platform the moment of which is restricted to a pre-determined path and,
- b) includes components used in the supporting structure, machinery, equipment, gear, lift well, enclosures entrances and,
- c) includes
  - a. low rise platform lifts which travel not more than 1.0 m, at a maximum speed of 0.15 m/s and having a platform not exceeding 1.6 m<sup>2</sup>
  - b. low rise passenger lifts fitted with hold to run controls, maximum travel not more than 4.0 m, having a platform not exceeding 1.6 m<sup>2</sup> and a maximum speed of 0.15 m/s
- d) but excludes
  - a. hoists, false cars and equipment used for installing lifts
  - b. plant for lifting performers during artistic, theatrical, stunt or acrobatic performances
  - c. amusement devices and ropeways
  - d. service lifts (dumbwaiters) designed only to carry goods

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- e. mine winders
- f. lifting appliances integral to machinery for accessing workstations for production, inspection, installation, commissioning, testing or maintenance, e.g., devices for accessing wind turbines or harbour cranes
- g. lifting appliances designed to carry out work from different locations, e.g., elevating work platforms.

3 – **Vehicle hoist**, means a device or series of devices linked to a common controller designed to raise a single unoccupied vehicle to provide access for under-chassis examination or service from a standing position. ‘Vehicle’ can include a car, bus or train.

4 – **Vehicle stacker**, means an appliance that is designed to stack vehicles without drivers or passengers being in the vehicle or any person on the platform.

5 – **Escalator**, means plant permanently installed in a structure, powered moving stairway designed for raising or lowering people in an inclined direction where the steps exposed are horizontal to support persons.

6 – **Moving walkway**, means plant permanently installed in a structure, powered device designed to convey people on a continuous surface e.g., pallets or belt in a flat or inclined direction.

### Version Control

Version	Description	Author	Date
V1.0	IPP 03 - Draft	AEA	13/08/2022
V1.1	IPP 03 – Final Document	AEA	03/09/2022
V1.2	IPP 03 - Published	AEA	04/09/2022
V1.3	IPP03 Amended after comments from SafeWork	AEA	01/10/2022