

STANDATA interpretation 19-EDI-012/19-FCB-009

Elevating Devices/Fire

Firefighters' Emergency Operation (FEO) testing for owners

Date Issued: March 2023

Page 1 of 3

Purpose

This joint STANDATA clarifies testing responsibility, frequency, and reporting for Firefighters' Emergency Operation (FEO) for elevators.

Discussion

The 2019 publication of ASME A17.1/CSA B44 "Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators" has changed the FEO testing frequency to monthly. The National Fire Code – 2019 Alberta Edition (NFC(AE)) has requirements for this testing at intervals no longer than every three months. Where there are conflicting requirements between the NFC(AE) and a referenced document, the NFC(AE) provision should supersede the referenced document.

Code References

NFC(AE) Division A, Article 1.5.1.2.

1.5.1.2. Conflicting Requirements

1) In case of conflict between the provisions of this Code and those of a referenced document, the provisions of this Code shall govern

NFC(AE) Division B, Article 7.1.1.2.

Testing Fire Emergency Systems

1) Except as provided in Sentence (2), fire emergency systems required to be installed in *buildings* in conformance with Subsection 3.2.6. of Division B of the NBC(AE) shall be tested in conformance with Sections 7.2. and 7.3.

Unless stated otherwise, all Code references in this STANDATA are to ASME A17.1-2019/CSA B44-19 Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators

Issued by the Provincial Fire and Elevating Devices Administrators

[Original signed]

Tina Parker

Provincial Fire Administrator

[Original Signed]

Dean Bruce

Provincial Elevating Devices Administrator

To sign up for our List Subscription Service: municipalaffairs.gov.ab.ca/am_list_subscription_services

alberta.ca/elevator-codes-and-standards

alberta.ca/fire-codes-and-standards

- 2) Any fire emergency system required by Subsection 3.2.6. of Division B of the NBC(AE) that does not conform to a specific measure outlined in Commentary C of the “User’s Guide – NBC 1995 Fire Protection, Occupant Safety and Accessibility (Part 3)” shall be tested to ensure that it operates as intended.
- 3) Deficiencies noted during the testing described in Sentences (1) and (2) shall be corrected.

NFC(AE) Division B, Article 7.1.1.3.

7.1.1.3. Records

- 1) A written record shall be kept of all tests and corrective measures required by Article 7.1.1.2., and such record shall be retained for examination by the *authority having jurisdiction*, in conformance with Article 2.2.1.2. of Division C.

NFC(AE) Division B, Article 7.2.1.1.

Intervals between Tests

- 1) Except as specifically prescribed in this Part, all tests specified in this Section and Section 7.3. shall be carried out at intervals not greater than 3 months, except that longer intervals between tests are permitted in conformance with Clause 1.2.1.1.(1)(b) of Division A. (See Note A-7.2.1.1.(1).)

NFC(AE) Division B, Article 7.2.2.1.

Testing Elevators

- 1) Emergency service features of elevators shall be tested to ensure that they operate in conformance with appropriate provincial, territorial or municipal requirements or, in the absence of such requirements, as provided in Sentence (2).
- 2) Tests to ensure operation in conformance with ASME A17.1/CSA B44, “Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators,” shall be performed on
- in-car emergency service switches,
 - manual key-operated recall switches located outside an elevator shaft, and
 - automatic emergency recall systems.
- 3) At intervals not greater than 12 months, the *building* emergency power systems shall be operated and all elevators supplied with emergency power shall be tested as provided in Sentence (1) with no other source of electrical power.

NFC(AE) Division C, Article 2.2.1.1.

Responsibility

- 1) Unless otherwise specified, the *owner* or the *owner’s* authorized agent shall be responsible for carrying out the provisions of this Code.

NFC(AE) Division C, Article 2.2.1.2.

Records

- 1) Where this Code requires that audits be performed, plans be provided, or that tests, inspections, maintenance or operational procedures be performed on a fire safety system, records shall be made and the original or a copy shall be retained at the premises for examination by the *authority having jurisdiction*.
- 5) Notwithstanding the conditions stated in Sentence (4), no record shall be destroyed within two years of having been prepared.

ASME A17.1/CSA B44, Clause 8.6.11.1 Firefighters’ Emergency Operation

All elevators provided with Firefighters’ Emergency Operation shall be subjected monthly, by authorized personnel, to Phase I recall by use of the key switch, and a minimum of one-floor operation on Phase II.

alberta.ca/elevator-codes-and-standards

alberta.ca/fire-codes-and-standards

©2023 Government of Alberta | March 2023 | Municipal Affairs

Deficiencies shall be reported to, and corrected by, elevator personnel. A record of findings shall be available to elevator personnel and the authority having jurisdiction.

NOTE: See Non-mandatory Appendix AA for additional operational verification.

Application

This interpretation applies to all elevating devices subject to the *Safety Codes Act* and its Regulations.

Interpretation

1. FEO must be tested at intervals no longer than every three months.
2. Conformance with these requirements is the responsibility of the owner. These checks are suggested to exercise and verify the features commonly used by emergency personnel.
3. These checks must be conducted by authorized personnel instructed in the applicable FEO requirements and identified by the owner as those designated with this responsibility.
4. A copy of this report must be available to the Authority Having Jurisdiction, elevator personnel and the elevating devices safety inspector.

This INTERPRETATION is applicable throughout the Province of Alberta.