Good News: Type certificates obtained under EN81-20/50:2014 are still applicable under the 2020 version – European Lift Association (ELA)

European Commission supports ELA's position that it is unnecessary to update EU Type-examination certificates for lifts and safety components for lifts due to citation of EN 81-20/50:2020

ELA has urged the European Commission to comment on whether it is necessary to update the EU type examination certificates for lifts and safety components for lifts in view of the citation of the harmonized standards EN 81-20/50:2020 in the Official Journal of the European Union ("OJEU") on 27 January 2021, and consequently withdrawal of the references of EN 81-20/50:2014 on 27 July 2022.

The Commission confirmed that only in the event that newly published harmonized standards change the generally recognized state of the art for a specific lift design (type), would further investigation be necessary to see if a revision of the certificates is required.

This is not the case with the most recently published standard EN 81-20/50:2020. In fact, the European Forewords of the harmonized standards EN 81-20/50:2020 explicitly state that "no technical changes are made during this revision". Thus, the technical requirements of EN 81-20/50:2020 remain identical to EN 81-20/50:2014.

The Commission therefore agrees with ELA that the publication of the references of EN 81-20/50:2020, and withdrawal of the references of EN 81-20/50:2014 on 27 July 2022, does not require (or justify) the initiation of a re-certification or "updating" of EU Type-examination certificates for lifts and safety components for lifts where the superseded editions have been used to benefit from the presumption of conformity.

ELA welcomes this clear position which removes at source any concerns about the impacts on update of EU Type-examination certificates of the revision of harmonized standards."