



Revision: 1



Date: 14/06/21

## **SAFed – Guidelines on the Supplementary Tests of In-Service Lifts**

The Safety Assessment Federation Ltd (SAFed) – Guidelines on the supplementary test of in-service lifts were produced in conjunction with the Lift and Escalator Industry Association (LEIA), lift managers and end user organisations and so are seen as good practice across the industry. The Guidelines are not a legislative requirement, but are commended by the Health and Safety Executive when dealing with lift installations, both in work place and non-work place locations. They are to be applied to support the integrity of a lift installation and would invariably be called for by competent person carrying out the thorough examination of a lift. Where a supplementary test is called for then it should be technically justified, in support of the continued safe use of the lift installation.

We strongly advise clients to have their lift installations thoroughly examined by a competent person in order to comply with their duty of care under national legislation (i.e. Health and Safety at Work Act 1974, Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998, etc.). In conjunction with such detailed independent scrutiny, clients are also advised to ensure that their lifts are suitably and satisfactorily maintained, again in line with legislative requirements (i.e. Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998). Where an item is satisfactorily examined and suitably maintained, any additional running costs due to repair and supplementary testing can very often be reduced.

In exceptional circumstances, there may very well be a requirement by the competent person carrying out the thorough examination to call for further supplementary work in the form of tests of particular aspects of any given lift. The guidelines outline the process of risk assessment by which a competent person will come to such decisions. Where deemed necessary, the competent person will indicate this on the report of thorough examination by stating clearly:

- what specific test is required and how it is to be carried out
- why the test is required
- when the test is to be completed

When called for, the tests must be suitably and sufficiently actioned in order for the subsequent thorough examination to be completed. The client should receive satisfactorily compiled documentation upon completion of the supplementary tests from their chosen sub-contractor indicating that the tests have been satisfactorily carried out and what conclusions were reached as to the integrity of the item being tested. This information should then be retained to show a clients' diligence in ensuring that their lifts are indeed in good order. The information should then also be made available to the competent person for scrutiny as required.