

Date: 1/23/2026

From: Mike McAlister, Industrial Safety Division Chief

To: All Elevator Owners, Contractors, Mechanics, and Inspectors

Cc: Industrial Safety Division, Kansas Department of Labor
Division of Facilities and Property Management, Kansas Department of
Administration Local 12, International Union of Elevator Constructors

RE: Language Clarification, ASME A17.1 and the Kansas Elevator Safety Act - testing requirements clarified due to the use of different wording.

Dear Elevator Owners, Contractors, Mechanics, and Inspectors,

Due to wording conflicts between the Kansas Elevator Safety Act and ASME A17.1 - 2022, please see the following clarifications to correct this matter:

Language Clarification

ASME A17.1 – 2022 Section 8.6 Maintenance, Repair, Replacements and Testing, provides requirements for how each type of equipment is to be maintained and the scheduled or timeline to perform this code required work.

The Kansas Elevator Safety Act, references in several areas a requirement of performing load testing. The Kansas State Fire Marshal is of the opinion that load testing would be the same as the ASME testing sub- sections as listed below:

Inspection actions that require test weights.

Hydraulic Elevator Acceptance Inspection.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 8.6.5.14.1 – 8.6.5.16.5 Hydraulic elevators are tested at 100% rated capacity.

Hydraulic Elevator Cat5 Inspection- Performed on a five-year frequency. Per A17.1-2022

A17.1-2022 Section 8.6.5.16.5 Hydraulic seismic valves are tested with weights at 100% rated capacity with overspeed conditions.

Traction Elevator Acceptance Inspection.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 8.6, Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement: this section details the periodic inspection and testing requirements.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 2.16 Braking System: Brakes on passenger elevators are tested at 125% of rated capacity. Freight elevator brakes are tested at 100% rated capacity.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 2.17, Car and Counterweight Buffers: Buffers are tested with 100% rated capacity at contract speed.

Traction Elevator Cat5 Inspection- Performed on a five-year frequency. Per A17.1-2022

Traction elevators require a "Category 5" test every five years. This is a comprehensive test that, in addition to annual tests, includes a 100% - 125% rated capacity brake test, and contract speed safety test.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 8.6, Maintenance, Repair, and Replacement: This section details the periodic inspection and testing requirements.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 2.16 Braking System: Brakes on passenger elevators are tested at 125% of rated capacity. Freight elevator brakes are tested at 100% rated capacity.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 2.17, Car and Counterweight Buffers, Buffers are tested with 100% rated capacity at contract speed.

ASME A17.1-2022 Section 2.19, Safeties: Safeties are tested at 100% rated capacity & contract speed.

Respectfully,

Mike McAlister

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Industrial Safety Division Chief

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