

New European standard for Lifts

EN 81-20 and EN81-50

The European Committee for Standardization has released in 2014 two new Safety Standards for the construction of lifts and for the testing of lift components. The new Standards EN 81-20 and EN 81-50 are already in force, but compulsory from 1. September 2017. They will replace the Standards EN 81-1 and EN81-2 which will remain in force during this transition period. Both new Standards are applicable for lifts for the transport of persons and goods. EN 81-20 defines the technical requirements for the construction, installation and of lifts. EN 81-50 defines design rules, calculations and tests of lift components. Schindler Lifts are compliant with the actual valid Standards EN 81-1 or EN81-2. Latest on 1. September 2017 all lifts put into operation will comply with the new Standards EN81-20 and EN81-50.

Important changes

Increasing safety requirements for passengers and service staff is at the core of the new Standard. Major changes are foreseen for the construction of specific components.

For passengers preventive safety and comfort demands e.g.

- Car lighting must be brighter (100 lux)
- Increased safety requirements (e.g. smaller gaps) to avoid “dragging of children hands”
- Mandatory light curtain shall automatically initiate re-opening of the door
- Manual door opening from inside the car only possible at defined landing position
- Higher strength of walls and doors, plus safety glass for mirrors
- Increased Fire Resistance requirements for the car interior decoration

For service staff the following changes apply

- During maintenance or service inspections increased safety spaces on the car roof and in the pit are defined
- Also a shaft illumination must be installed
- An inspection control station in the pit increases the safety for service work.

‘I’m planning a new building, what do I have to consider?’

As a planner of a new building two aspects are vital. First the handover date and secondly the possibly new dimensions of the elevator shaft.

For all projects that most likely will be handed over after August 31st, 2017 Schindler advises to plan according EN81-20/-50. New planning data, that reflect the new Standard requirement, is available upon request with Schindler. Just contact your Schindler consultant; he will assist you to decide whether to plan with the actual or new planning data.

‘Do I need to upgrade the elevators in my building?’

No. The new Standard only affects newly installed elevators resp. constructed buildings and full replacements in existing buildings. Elevators that are in operation do not need any upgrades or other amendments.

In case of planning to replace replacement elevators, your Schindler consultant will assess the situation with you.



EN-81-20/-50 in brief

- Issues by the CEN – European Commission for Standardization
- Replaces the EN81-1/-2
- EN81-20 defines the rules for elevator construction
- EN81-50 provides the framework for verifying and testing of the components
- The norm is valid already today and binding as of September 01, 2017

Schindler offering

Schindler has during the last couple of years adjusted the elevators to meet all requirements of the EN81-20/-50. A dedicated team analysed and engineered the solutions for all Schindler elevators. Passenger and service safety are non-negotiable for Schindler. Already today our products and processes exceed the required levels of safety – e.g. SAIS (to be explained)



EN81-20 Technical Highlights

System

