



DEPARTMENT OF BUILDINGS

EXECUTIVE OFFICES  
120 WALL STREET NEW YORK, N.Y. 10005

CHARLES M. SMITH, Jr., R. A., Commissioner

June 11, 1984

IRVING E. MINKIN, P.E.  
1st Deputy Commissioner

248-8758

Mr. C. J. Chrobot  
Sales Engineer  
Otis Elevator Company  
750 Third Avenue  
New York, New York 10017

Re: Use of Oil Buffers for  
Elevator Installation

Dear Mr. Chrobot:

This is in response to your letter of April 3, 1984 in which you request a generic waiver of objections issued by the Manhattan Elevator Division to the use of reduced stroke buffers anywhere contingent upon the installation of emergency terminal speed limiting devices.

The essence of the disagreement between your firm and the Elevator Division is that the alternative authorized for reduced stroke buffers by 201.4 a (2) is contingent upon design factors inter-related with the reduced speeds at which the car or counter-weight can strike its buffer; and, there appears to have been either no verification of the actual reduced striking speed; or alternately such measurements were made for cars at substantially lesser speeds than in fact are intended for normal use.

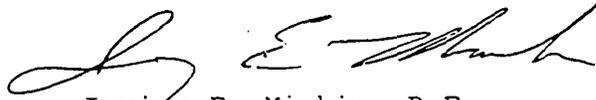
I concur that the utilization of reduced stroke buffers pursuant to Rule 201.4 a (2), in conjunction with all of the criteria of Rule 209.4 relating to emergency terminal speed limiting devices can be authorized as-of-right, provided that tests are performed demonstrating the actual reduced speeds and the validation of the inter-related design criteria of the components specified in Rule 201.4 a (2) and Rule 209.5.

If Chief Inspector John Ryan witnesses representative test installations that adequately bracket the design variation of the components and the circuitry, additional testing of specific installations may not be necessary.

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I trust this response has been of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Irving E. Minkin".

Irving E. Minkin, P.E.  
Deputy Commissioner

IEM:ap

cc: Commissioner Smith  
Deputy Commissioner Madonia  
Assistant Commissioner Dennis  
Assistant Commissioner White  
Executive Engineer Polsky  
Borough Superintendents  
Chief Elevator Inspectors  
File

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