



Joint Bulletin

NYC Department of Buildings, Elevator Division NYC Fire Department, Bureau of Operations/ Bureau of Fire Prevention

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Annual (Category 1) Elevator Testing Firefighter Emergency Operation Phase I and Phase II

The NYC Department of Buildings and NYC Fire Department issue this bulletin to clarify the requirements for the annual (Category 1) testing of elevators for firefighter emergency operation.

During the Category I elevator test required by Section 28-304.6.1 of the NYC Administrative Code (General Administrative Provisions for the NYC Construction Codes), and Section 8.11.2.2.6 of ASME Standard A17.1,* testing of the elevator's firefighter emergency operation (Phase I and Phase II) shall be conducted to confirm that it is operating in compliance with Section 2.27 of the ASME Standard (as modified by Appendix K).

The Category 1 test of firefighter emergency operation shall be conducted independently of the monthly testing of firefighter emergency operation required by Section 8.6.10.1 of the ASME Standard and 2014 NYC Fire Code Section FC607.4. Inspection of the records documenting the monthly inspections may no longer be accepted as sufficient to establish that an elevator is operating in compliance with Section 2.27 of the ASME Standard (as modified by Appendix K).

All special elevator operations/features, including express service, floor lockouts, VIP and Sabbath elevator operation, hospital emergency service, and inspection and hoist way access service, must be tested in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code and the ASME Standard. In accordance with the ASME Standard, firefighter emergency operation overrides all functions, except hospital emergency service and inspection and hoist way access service.

NYC Administrative Code §28-304.6.3 requires that an elevator be immediately taken out of service if an unsafe condition is found, the building owner notified, and notification made to the NYC Department of Buildings within 24 hours.

* The 2014 New York City Building Code adopted the 2000 edition of ASME Standard A17.1, "Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators," with Supplements A17.1a (2002) and A17.1b (2003). New York City modifications to the ASME Standard are set forth in Appendix K to the Building Code.