

Lift and Escalator Industry Association comments

Page: [Policy D3 Inclusive design](#)

Section: [D3](#)

The policy is clearly easiest to achieve in new developments and is supported by significant guidance e.g. in British Standards, Approved Documents to the Building Regulations etc. The improvement of existing buildings must be a priority. Many of these would have been built without evacuation lift provision or with provision which is unacceptable for a new building. Yet, as the buildings have aged, their use changed and their contents changed with modern materials, the fire risk to those buildings has generally increased. At the same time, those using and living within these buildings have aged and so the proportions of building populations needing evacuation lifts in the event of fire have generally increased. Consequently, there is an imperative to fit fire-protected evacuation lifts where existing lifts are not to current levels of protection.

Page: [Policy D3 Inclusive design](#)

Section: [3.3.5](#)

I strongly support and welcome the statement about emergency carry down or carry up devices. Other reasons supporting this statement are that use of these devices restricts stairway spaces for others (slowing their evacuation time and so increasing risks for all) and require significant resources to be committed for their safe use. Such devices are often specified as a short-sighted cost saving option without considering the risks to all from actually trying to use them in an emergency.