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25 April 2024

To: All Registered Lift/Escalator Contractors  
All Registered Lift/Escalator Engineers

## **Circular No. 5/2024 – Uplifting Qualification Requirements for Registered Lift/Escalator Engineers**

The Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (Commencement) Notice 2024 was gazetted<sup>1</sup> on 22 March 2024, stipulating that section 24 of Schedule 16 to the Lifts and Escalators Ordinance (“the Ordinance”) would come into operation on 31 December 2027. In other words, the current transitional arrangement allowing practitioners possessing bachelor’s degrees and four years of relevant experience to apply for becoming registered engineers (“REs”) under the Ordinance would be repealed on the specified date, and from that day onwards only Registered Professional Engineers<sup>2</sup> with two years of relevant experience would be eligible to apply for becoming REs.

In response to the comments received during the consultation exercise, practitioners possessing bachelor’s degrees or equivalent academic qualifications may continue to apply for becoming REs using the existing transitional arrangement until the end of 2027. During the interim, the dedicated written examination will be held at least once every year to allow ample opportunities for practitioners to sit for the examination. The 2-year validity of the results of previous dedicated written examinations would also be lifted, meaning that practitioners holding “pass” results of any previous written examination may directly apply for interview once having acquired four years of relevant working experience. Practitioners wishing to apply for RE statuses using the existing transitional arrangement are strongly encouraged to lodge their applications early to allow ample time to process their applications.

To support long term development of the trade through nurturing in-house REs, Registered Contractors (“RCs”) are strongly recommended to organize Scheme “A” training programmes as approved by the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (“HKIE”). The HKIE has also published Guidance Notes<sup>3</sup> for facilitating lift/escalator trade practitioners to acquire HKIE membership. We appeal the trade to embrace the change and uplift its professional standing for providing better lift and escalator services to the Hong Kong community.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gld.gov.hk/egazette/pdf/20242812/es22024281234.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Being a person whose name is currently entered in the register of registered professional engineers established by the Engineers Registration Board under section 7 of the Engineers Registration Ordinance (Cap. 409).

<sup>3</sup> See Circular No. 3/2022.

If you have any questions on the subject matter, please contact our officer on telephone number 3757 6120.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Francis', written over a vertical blue line.

(NG Siu-on, Francis)  
for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services

c.c. The Lift and Escalator Contractors Association  
The Registered Elevator and Escalator Contractors Association Limited  
The International Association of Elevator Engineer (HK-China) Branch  
The Hong Kong Institution of Registered Engineers (Lift & Escalator)