



OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS STATE FIRE MARSHAL

JB Pritzker, Governor
Michele L. Pankow, State Fire Marshal

MEMORANDUM

To: All Illinois Licensed Contractors, Inspection Companies/Inspectors, and Municipalities with Municipal Agreements with OSFM

From: John Andersen, Division Manager, Elevator Safety Division, Office of the State Fire Marshal

Re: Update on Status of Elevator Safety Administrative Rules; Updated Door Lock Monitoring Frequently Asked Questions (February 2026)

Date: February 6, 2026

Previous communication from the Division provided notice that the Illinois Elevator Safety Rules were being updated and were anticipated to be effective before the end of 2025. However, due to unresolved questions and late public comments regarding the rulemaking, the proposed update of the Illinois Elevator Safety Rules has been withdrawn. There is currently no anticipated time frame for adoption, but the Division's intent is to address unresolved items and submit updated rules as soon as is practical. At this time, conveyances should continue to be designed, constructed, installed, operated, inspected, tested, maintained, altered, and repaired in accordance with the currently adopted standards and recommended practices, including:

- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)
 - Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators (ASME A17.1 2019).
 - Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts (ASME A18.1-2017).
 - Standard for the Qualification of Elevator Inspectors (ASME QEI 1-2018).
 - Guide for Inspection of Elevators, Escalators, and Moving Walks (ASME A17.2-2017). (Recommended Practice)
- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
 - Automated People Mover Standards (ANSI/ASCE/T&DI 21-2013).

The text of the currently applicable Rules can be found at the link below.

<http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/041/04101000sections.html>.

Further, at the October 2025 meeting, the Illinois Elevator Safety Review Board (the Board) had approved the new set of inspection forms to implement at the time the new codes were effective. As the proposed update to the rules has been withdrawn and the new codes are not effective, please continue to use/submit and accept the current inspection forms available directly from the website below. As all inspections "shall use the inspection form prescribed by the Board", any use of another inspection form is not permitted. Any entity which has utilized the October 2025 form should correct their documentation.

<https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/elevators/elevator-applications.html>

There will be continued discussion about the adoption of updated codes, including the implementation of the retroactive door lock monitoring requirement contained in the ASME A17.1 (2022), during future meetings of the Board. All are welcome and encouraged to participate and share comments or suggestions at the next Board meeting.

Questions may be addressed to:

John Andersen, Division Manager at John.P.Andersen@Illinois.gov or 312-610-0763.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Door Lock Monitoring or Door Monitoring Systems

Question 1: What is door lock monitoring¹?

Door lock monitoring (or door monitoring system) refers to a system that prevents an elevator from moving unless its doors are fully closed and locked. A door monitoring system is designed to monitor the position of an elevator's doors and prevent automatic operation if any door issues are detected, such as with door wiring, door locks, door contacts, or a door system bypass. Door lock monitoring is intended to ensure that an elevator cannot operate in such circumstances, which would prevent the elevator doors from opening automatically and any passenger falling into the hoistway, being crushed during unexpected movement of the elevator, or otherwise being exposed to danger of injury or death. Elevator codes began including requirements for door lock monitoring after past serious accidents and fatalities.

Question 2: Which elevators require door lock monitoring?

Door lock monitoring is currently required by the 2019 edition ASME A17.1 *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators* (ASME A17.1 (2019)) in new and altered elevators. The 2022 edition ASME A17.1 *Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators* (ASME A17.1 (2022)), which is under consideration for adoption, contains requirements for door lock monitoring to be retrofitted into existing elevators. The door lock monitoring requirement in ASME A17.1 (2022) applies to all automatic passenger and freight elevators with power operated car doors that are mechanically coupled to landing doors that do not already have door lock monitoring. Some existing elevators have door lock monitoring in place. See additional information below. Check with your elevator company if you are unsure of the status of door lock monitoring for your elevator(s).

Question 3: What if my elevator has door lock monitoring today?

Existing elevators which have a door monitoring system installed under current and previous code editions must comply with the door monitoring system requirements of the ASME A17.1 edition under which they were installed.

Question 4: What if I am planning to alter (modernize) my elevator?

As with all alterations (modernizations), the alteration must comply with the ASME A17.1 edition in effect at the time of permitting.

Question 5: Why did door lock monitoring become a requirement in the Codes?

To protect the elevator-riding public from risk of serious injury and death associated with open elevator doors and elevator movement. New York City led the nation in instituting door lock monitoring² for existing elevators after tragic incidents in 2011 and 2019 in which elevator passenger deaths occurred. Door lock monitoring is already required for new and altered elevators in Illinois and across the United States. However, serious elevator accidents and fatalities continue to happen, some of which could have been prevented had door lock monitoring been installed. Door lock monitoring has been required for existing elevators in a number of other states over the past 10 years.

¹ Door lock monitoring is required by ASME code A17.1 (2022 edition) Section 2.26.5 – Systems to Monitor and Prevent Automatic Operation of the Elevator With Faulty Door Circuits.

² In New York City, door lock monitoring for all automatic elevators was required by January 1, 2020.

Question 6: When do elevator owners have to have door lock monitoring in place to comply with the door lock monitoring requirement?

Under current rules, elevators permitted for installation or alteration, will be required to have door lock monitoring compliant with ASME A17.1 (2019) at the time of installation or alteration. Existing elevators without a door monitoring system are not currently required to have door lock monitoring. Existing elevators which have a door monitoring system installed under the current or previous code editions must comply with the door monitoring system requirements of the ASME A17.1 edition under which they were installed.

Question 7: How can existing elevators without a door monitoring system implement door lock monitoring?

Compliance can be achieved in two ways: 1) Adding an overlay to the existing controller; or 2) Alteration (Modernization) of the elevator. The approach taken will be determined by the elevator owner and may depend on factors such as the age of the equipment, usage, budget, and the owner's plans for the building. These factors can affect cost.

Question 8: Who can I contact about getting door lock monitoring for my elevator?

A list of all [licensed elevator contractors](https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/elevators/elevator-contractors-inspectors-and-inspection-companies.html) is available at <https://sfm.illinois.gov/about/divisions/elevators/elevator-contractors-inspectors-and-inspection-companies.html>.

Question 9: What if my elevator has doors that are not mechanically coupled?

The door lock monitoring requirement in ASME A17.1 would apply to all automatic passenger and freight elevators with power operated car doors that are mechanically coupled to landing doors. The door lock monitoring requirement does not apply to elevator car doors which are not power operated car doors mechanically coupled to landing doors. If your elevator has car doors which are not power operated car doors mechanically coupled to landing doors, then the requirement does not apply.