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ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Resources Based, Manufacturing and Consumer Goods Industries
Engineering Industries

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Directive 2014/33/EU and EU-type examination certificates for UCMP devices

Directive 2014/33/EU of 26 February 2014 on the harmonisation of the laws of the Member States relating to lifts and safety components for lifts will be applicable from 20 April 2016. This directive repeals and replaces Directive 95/16/EC.

Annex III of Directive 2014/33/EU contains the list of safety components. Point 2 of this Annex includes "devices to prevent falls referred to in point 3.2 of Annex I to prevent the car from falling or uncontrolled movement" into this list. This means that all safety devices to prevent uncontrolled movements are now explicitly included in the list of safety components, not just devices to check free fall and uncontrolled upward movements. Hence, so-called UCMP devices are now explicitly covered by the list of safety components. In order to be placed on the market safety components need an EU type examination certificate in accordance with Annex IV. The new EU-Type examination certificates can be issued only from 20 April 2016. Article 44 provides that certificates issued under Directive 95/16/EC remain valid under the new Directive.

Taking into account that UCMP devices were already introduced in the new clause 9.11 – Protection against unintended car movement of Amendment A3 of the standard EN81-1/2 from March 2010, for the last 4 years practically all new installations have been equipped with these UCMP devices. The problem with a view to the transition to new Directive is that such devices have been placed on the market with certificates which are not EU type examination certificates under Directive 95/16/EC. Such certificates have been issued by notified bodies and by other conformity assessment bodies, like laboratories.

According to Article 44 of Directive 2104//33/EU Member States shall not impede the putting into service of lifts or the making available on the market of safety components for lifts covered by Directive 95/16/EC which are in conformity with that Directive and which were placed on the market before 20 April 2016.

This means that all UCMP devices placed on the market before 20 April 2016 can continue to be made available on the market and put into service, meaning to be incorporated into new lifts without any additional requirements.

Regarding UCMP devices for which the manufacturers have obtained certificates before 20 April 2016 and which they continue to place on the market after that date the European Commission would like to propose to the Member States to agree on a common approach on the acceptance of such certificates.

- 1) Certificates which have been issued for UCPM devices by notified bodies notified under Directive 2014/33/EU before 20th April 2016 should be directly replaced by EU type examination certificates without further tests or technical examination, unless the notified body demonstrates that from a safety point of view further tests and/or technical examination are needed.
- 2) UCPM devices which have been assessed by other conformity assessment bodies that were not notified bodies will need to obtain an EU type examination certificate from a notified body. In its examination of the device the notified body shall take due account of the existing certificate and previous tests carried out.