



Alberta Elevating Devices  
& Amusement Rides  
Safety Association

## INFORMATION BULLETIN IBE19-004 Issued 2019

**Issue:** Some elevators have the top terminal floor marked as the “designated level” location. Under certain conditions, such as a hoistway fire, it would cause the elevator to travel to designated floor level into the fire zone.

**Background:** The ASME A17.1-2013/CSA B44-13 requires elevator equipped with Firefighters Emergency Operation (FEO) to travel to designated floor level if there is an activation of a fire alarm initiating device (FAID) as specified 2.27.3.2.2(a) except in the following conditions as outlined in 2.27.3.2.3 (d) where the fire is located at the lowest landing, at the designated floor level and the machinery spaces. (Refer to code for actual details)

The meaning of the **Designated Level** is the main floor or other floor level that best serves the needs of emergency personnel for firefighting or rescue purposes *identified by the building authority and code or fire authority.*

**Conclusion:**

1. While the code is silent on the fact that the elevator must **not** return to the designated level, if there is an activation of a FAID in the hoistway and the terminal top floor of the building is the designated level, it is implied based on the following similar conditions that alternate level must be used if there is an activation of FAID;
  - a. In machinery space in the hoistway
  - b. In the lowest landing
  - c. In lobby of designated landing
2. The same rationale applies to the activation of a FAID in the hoistway where the designated level is at a top terminal floor therefore the elevator would be required to travel to an alternate floor.

**Regulatory Requirements and Action Plan:**

1. **AEDARSA enforces the requirements of the current code:**  
**ASME A17.1 -2013/CSA B44-13**
2. **Noncompliance:** AEDARSA will not allow a device to pass the initial inspection and be put into operation until device is meets code items outlined above.

**Implementation:** This information bulletin is effective immediately

*Original signed by:*

---

Dean McKernon,  
AEDARSA VP Operations