

Safe Operation For Elevators During A Fire

Elevator control

Fire and/or excessive heat on a given building floor, may activate the “elevator call button” and summon the elevator directly to the fire floor. Elevator cars are not fire proof and elevator shaft-ways are not smoke proof.

Elevators must not be used to evacuate the building or transfer occupants to safe building areas during an emergency. Occupants should use the stairways for prompt and safe evacuation.

For safe elevator operation during emergency situations the following is recommended.

1. A central control should be installed in the lobby which when activated will immediately return all elevators nonstop to the lobby and automatically open all doors.
2. Provision should be made to manually control all elevators from the lobby central control station.
3. Products of combustion automatic sensing devices, responsive to heat and/or smoke, should be installed in the elevator shafts. When activated the elevator controls should be programmed to return all elevator cars nonstop to the lobby.
4. Emergency keys should be available at the lobby central control station, to open elevator doors during an emergency.
5. Selected elevators should be provided with a “fireman’s switch” which would permit manual control of individual cars for use by the Fire Department.
6. “Class B” fire doors should be provided on all elevator landings.
7. Elevator electrical equipment should be placed in conduit or otherwise protected from fire and heat.

Elevator cars are not fire proof and elevator shaft-ways are not smoke proof.

The loss prevention information and advice presented in this brochure are intended only to advise our insureds and their managers of a variety of methods and strategies based on generally accepted safe practices, for controlling potentially loss producing situations commonly occurring in business premises and/or operations. They are not intended to warrant that all potential hazards or conditions have been evaluated or can be controlled. They are not intended as an offer to write insurance coverage for such conditions or exposures, or to simply that Great American Insurance Company will write such coverage. The liability of Great American Insurance Company is limited to the specific terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies issued.

301 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202 F13396B-LP (01/13)

