

Eric Tragash

From: Department of Public Safety on behalf of Department of Public Safety
To: Eric Tragash
Cc:
Subject: chapter 288 and VRC update
Attachments:

Sent: Fri 5/13/2011 4:15 PM

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*The Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
Department of Public Safety*



Chapter 288 Freight Elevator and VRC reminder

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May 13, 2011

Dear Eric,

This message is being sent out as a courtesy reminder about two important elevator related issues: chapter 288 freight elevators and VRCs. This notice is being sent to the Department of Public Safety's entire elevator contact list, but please feel free to forward this along to anybody who may be interested in the information as they may not yet be on the list. Please take a few moments to review the entire notice.

Chapter 288 freight elevators

As you may recall, in 2006 the Board of Elevator Regulations

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was mandated by **law** to develop new regulations to provide for the safe operation of chapter 288 freight elevators. The Board adopted such **regulations** in May of 2007. The regulations provided owners of affected elevators until July 1, 2011 to bring their units into compliance with the new regulations.

With that date quickly approaching, we are writing to remind you of the requirements, as well as to request that you remind any affected customers of yours of the requirements. The affected customers are those who own freight elevators that were officially granted chapter 288 status by the Board. Beginning July 1, 2011, state elevator inspectors will inspect these units for compliance with the new regulations. The inspections will take place during the annual inspection and not on a random basis.

To review the regulations, you may log on to the Board's web page or click **here**. A variance from the regulations may be applied for by submitting the **Variance Petition for Chapter 288 Elevators** form which can be downloaded from the Board's webpage or clicking on the link.

VRCs

As a reminder, as of April 15, 2010, all Vertical Reciprocating Conveyors ("VRC") must be installed, maintained, and inspected in accordance with 524 CMR. The applicable regulations may be accessed by logging on to the Board's web page or by clicking **here**.

A VRC is defined as: "A power driven stationary conveyance permanently installed, and comprised of a car or platform that moves in guides, serves two or more floors or landings, and travels in a vertical or inclined direction. It is an isolated self-contained lift, and is not part of a mechanized conveyor system. VRCs are normally installed in a commercial or industrial area not accessible to the general public or intended to be operated by the general public."

New Regulations

The Board of Elevator Regulations is in the process of developing two new sets of regulations: for the establishment of an 'elevator contractor' program, and for the regulation of control rooms/spaces for private residence elevators. Prior to the adoption of these regulations a public hearing will be scheduled. This should happen in the near future. The date of the hearing and the proposed language will be made available in this format so please be on the lookout if you are interested.



We look forward to continue working with the entire elevator industry on all issues of interest with an eye towards developing the best possible set of rules and procedures possible. All are welcome to attend and participate in the periodic Elevator Task Group meetings. Thank you for your continued support.

Looking forward,

Department of Public Safety

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Department of Public Safety | One Ashburton Place, room 1301 | Boston | MA | 02171