

Well, as the Rehab Subcode moves through the rule process, we in the Bureau of Code Services are preparing an extensive training program, which will be available to all working code officials during the training program this fall.

Working code officials will receive training first. Retired or non-working code officials will receive training next. The training will consist of a fall class in which the underlying premises of the rehab code will be explained and the categories of work will be actively discussed. In the spring 1998, follow-up workshops will be held to evaluate any problems and to discuss complex questions that may have arisen while enforcing this new subcode.

As always, we look forward to serving you and will keep you all informed as the plans to provide this training progress.

Source: Richard Z. Osworth  
Chief, Bureau of Code Services

### New Jersey One-Call

In the Summer 1995 *Construction Code Communicator* (Volume 7, Number 2), an article was published entitled the "Underground Facility Protection Act," which advised code enforcing agencies to treat the notification to the New Jersey One-Call Center as a prior approval for the issuance of footing and foundation or demolition/excavation permits. The Underground Facility Protection Act requires anyone who is planning to perform demolition or excavation work to allow utilities three business days to mark out their facilities; the project must then be started within ten business days of the One-Call Center notification. Sometimes advertised as "Call Utility Dig, 1-800-272-1000", this program directs you to let utility companies know that you are planning to dig. With underground utilities, it critical that New Jersey One-Call know the location of your project and that you know the location of the underground utilities.

Synchronizing the One-Call notification with the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) permitting process and the start of construction work has proven difficult. Because of the lapse in time that sometimes occurs between the issuance of a permit and the start of work, New Jersey One-Call staff asked that the policy of treating New Jersey One-Call notification as a prior approval for the issuance of a construction or demolition permit be discontinued. However, code officials may advise builders to make the call and obtain the necessary approvals for demolition or excavation before work begins.

Please call the Code Assistance Unit at 609/530-8793 with any questions.

Source: Farid Ahmad, P.E.  
Supervisor, Code Assistance Unit

### Elevator Devices — Permits, and Parties Responsible

This article updates an article that appeared in the Spring 1993 *Construction Code Communicator* (Volume 5, Number 1). This article is based on the Uniform Construction Code's (UCC) current requirements regarding the enforcement responsibilities of various subcodes when work on elevator devices requires a permit.

*What type of work on elevator devices is subject to a permit?*

The installation of new elevator devices, alteration of elevator devices, and minor work on elevator devices all require a permit. The installation or alteration of an elevator device requires the issuance of a permit before work begins. A construction permit (UCC Form F-170) or permit update (UCC Form F-190) are issued by the construction official upon receipt of approvals from all subcode officials involved.

*What subcodes are involved in the permit process?*

With the exception of the installation of a new elevator device (which is always subject to multiple subcodes), work that requires a permit may or may not include more than one subcode. To determine which subcodes are involved in the project — and, consequently, which UCC Technical Sections need to be submitted to the construction official's office — the scope of work must be identified by the applicant. Responsibility to enforce provisions of the various subcodes are in *N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.4*, where the plan review responsibilities and construction inspection functions of every subcode are listed.

*Who is responsible for obtaining the permit from an enforcing agency?*

Either the owner or the owner's agent (for example, a licensed engineer, registered architect or plumbing, electrical, or other contractor employed in connection with the proposed work) is responsible for obtaining the permit.

*Is the elevator contractor allowed to obtain a permit (to act as a general contractor) for work on elevator devices when the work involves more than one subcode?*

The answer is yes. An example may help explain this issue. A permit is required for the addition of firefighter service to an existing elevator as well as for the installation of fire alarm devices to initiate automatic recall of the elevator. The elevator contractor may be authorized by the owner to be the agent responsible for obtaining a permit for the entire scope of work. In this case, the elevator contractor will submit to the enforcing agency the application for a permit and the elevator subcode technical section.

The elevator contractor must also ensure that the fire protection technical section is prepared and submitted by the contractor who installs the fire alarm initiating devices.

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*Who is responsible for submitting the electrical subcode technical section when the work on an elevator device includes tasks that are within the electrical subcode officials' responsibilities as delineated in N.J.A.C. 5:23-3.4?*

When work relating to the elevator devices includes electrical tasks that require a licensed electrical contractor, the electrical subcode technical section should be prepared and signed by the licensed electrical contractor.

When work relating to the elevator devices includes electrical tasks that *do not* require a licensed electrical contractor, such as work in elevators and escalators which is exempt electrical work pursuant to the Electrical Contractors Licensing Law, this work may be included on the elevator subcode technical section by the elevator contractor.

*Whose responsibility is it to submit the electrical subcode technical section when work proposed is limited to the tasks of the elevator contractors, but require inspections by the electrical subcode officials?*

An example might help explain this issue. Suppose that an elevator is located in a hazardous area (NEC-1995, sections 620-38) and work is limited to the elevator contractor's work on the equipment and wiring located on the underside of the elevator car platform. Since the requirements of NEC 620-38, Electric Equipment in Garage and Similar Occupancies, are enforced by the electrical subcode official, the elevator contractor needs to submit the elevator subcode technical section and the electrical subcode technical section to the enforcing agency.

If there are any questions, please contact me at 609/530-8833.

Source: Paulina Caploon  
Elevator Safety Unit  
Bureau of Code Services

## The Elevator Inspection Form and Maintenance Issue

The Elevator Safety Unit has been asked to provide guidance on the Elevator Inspection form regarding what type of violations should be addressed in the routine maintenance sections of the form. To formulate guidance, the Uniform Construction Code (UCC) rules and the technical standard referenced in those rules have been consulted.

According to N.J.A.C. 5:23-12.2(b), all operating and electrical parts and accessory equipment of elevator devices shall be maintained in safe operating condition. The maintenance of elevators, dumbwaiters and escalators shall conform to the most recent edition of ASME A17.1 referenced in the building subcode. Presently, ANSI/ASME A17.1-1990 is the referenced standard.

ASME A17.1-1990, Section 1206, entitled "Maintenance", outlines various maintenance tasks, for example:

**1206.2c Top of Cars.** The tops of cars shall be kept clean and free from oil or grease and shall not be used for storing lubricants.

Material not required for the operation of the elevator shall not be stored or carried on top of the elevator car (see Rule 204.1g).

**1206.2a Hoistways and Pits.** Hoistways and pits shall be kept clean and free of dirt and rubbish and shall not be used for storage purposes. Water shall not be allowed to accumulate in pits.

**Rule 1206.5 Maintenance of Hydraulic Elevators and Dumbwaiters 1206.5b(4).** Valves and cylinders shall be kept properly packed and the packing glands shall be periodically tightened to prevent loss of the fluid.

Violations of requirements like these shall be noted in the applicable "routine maintenance" section of the elevator inspection form. The inspector will then provide on the Notice of Violation and Order to Terminate a clear description of the violation(s), including the applicable citation(s) from the rules.

Source: Paulina Caploon  
Elevator Safety Unit  
Bureau of Code Services

## 16 Gauge Pipe Columns

It has come to the attention of the Department that some code officials reject 16 gauge tubular steel, concrete-filled pipe columns for use in residential construction. According to these officials, Bulletin 88-4, Concrete-Filled Pipe Columns, does not permit the use of such columns. This statement is not correct. Bulletin 88-4 does permit the use of 16 gauge columns; it just conditions their acceptance upon test results. The Bulletin is primarily intended to restrict the use of substandard 16 gauge concrete-filled steel pipe columns.

Building Officials and Code Administrators (BOCA) Evaluation Services, Inc. has published Research Reports No. 91-11 and No. 93-36 on fixed length, 16 gauge tubular steel, concrete-filled column for structural support of floor girders in residential construction, Use Group R-3. For use groups other than R-3, special in-plant inspections are recommended.

The products evaluated are factory-fabricated pipe columns of 3 1/2 inch and 4 inch outside diameters and 5 feet to 14 feet in length with fixed top and bottom steel plates. Among other things, structural application of these columns requires builders to follow manufacturer's installation instructions and perform structural calculations on all loading aspects.

Code officials may accept 16 gauge concrete-filled steel pipe columns on the basis of test and evaluation reports and the supporting structural calculations. The research reports published in support of the product carry some limitations and use conditions. Code officials should carefully review and enforce such requirements.

If there are any questions or concerns about the 16 gauge pipe columns, please call the Code Assistance Unit at 609/530-8793.

Source: Farid Ahmad, P.E.  
Supervisor, Code Assistance Unit