

Elevator UPdate

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DBPR's Online Services

Apply for a License
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Maintain Your License
Online account to maintain or renew your license.

Customer Contact Center
Submit an email correspondence.

Changes Challenge Us to Communicate

No one likes change. Change is difficult. It's uncomfortable. It removes us from our normal routine; it makes us do things differently. However, even though change is often resisted, it is also what moves us forward and makes life better and easier.

This newsletter was started to help the division communicate with licensees about issues facing the industry, including changes. This issue addresses changes such as address changes, form changes, and law changes.

The changes discussed over the next four pages make things better. Some will help the division complete jobs more efficiently, some will help make doing your job easier, and some of the changes will ultimately make elevators safer. There is even change that will make future changes easier to implement.

As you read this issue, keep in mind how these changes affect you and your business. Does communicating these changes with you make the changes easier to adopt? When your business experiences changes that affect your license, are you communicating those changes with the division? Your ability to communicate through a change will impact how that change is adopted and whether the change is successful.

Change is inevitable. Change is good. It challenges us to do better and requires us to communicate with each other.

Sincerely,

Michelle Comingore, MPA
Chief, Bureau of Elevator Safety

Address and Inspection Report Changes

As of July 1, 2016, the DBPR's headquarters in Tallahassee moved to a new location. The department's new address is:

2601 Blair Stone Road
Tallahassee, FL 32399

All inspection reports, letters, complaints and other correspondence should be sent to the new address. License renewals should be mailed to the address on the renewal notice.

As a part of the address change, the division changed the DBPR Form HR 5023-003, Elevator Inspection Report. The changes removed DBPR's name and information and added a space for the inspection company name and registered elevator company (REC) license number. The inspector must include the name of the inspection company and REC number on the inspection report. Sole proprietors who do not work for an elevator company must include their name as listed on their certified elevator inspector license and may leave the REC license number space blank.

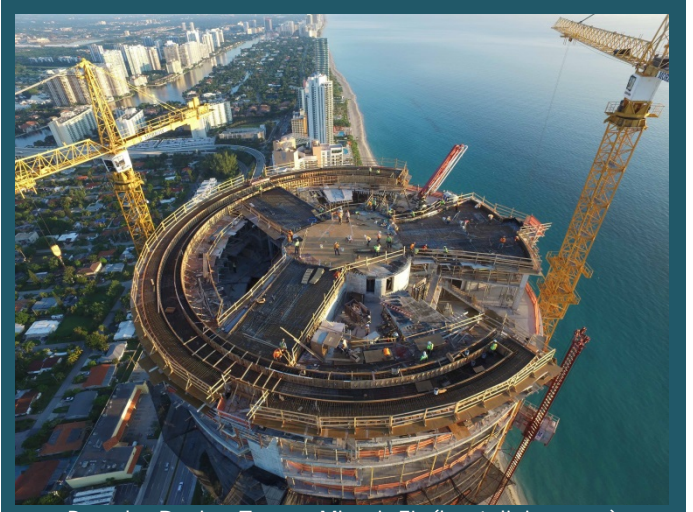
Increased Construction Creates Need for More Licensed Workers

Construction in Florida is big business. According to Florida Trend, construction accounts for 4.4% of Florida's GDP and 5.2% of total employment, with a projected 24.8% growth through 2023 (Vogel 2016). As a result, permits to install elevators have more than doubled over the last five years.

As work increases, companies may bring in elevator personnel from other states to complete projects in Florida. However, elevator personnel working in Florida generally require a Florida license. Licenses from other states are not valid for work in Florida.

All registered elevator companies need to be aware that all personnel working on elevators in this state must have a certified elevator technician or certified elevator inspector license from the state of Florida or be under the direct supervision of a certificate of competency holder.

License applications are available on the division's website and can be submitted through DBPR's Online Services (see page 1 for links). Contact DBPR with questions regarding whether or not a license is needed, the requirements for a license, or how to apply.



Porsche Design Tower, Miami, FL (hauteliving.com)

DIRECT SUPERVISION: “a certificate of competency holder supervising an elevator helper as set forth in section 399.01(15), Florida Statutes, is within physical proximity of the person being directly supervised such that timely observation and evaluation of the work being performed is facilitated to ensure the work is completed in accordance with applicable statutory and administrative code requirements.”

Two-Stop Exemption Requires Annual Verification of Compliance

In the last two issues, we discussed how to qualify for the two-stop exemption and what is required on-site as proof that the qualifications are being met. Once a contract that meets requirements is in place and the REC is performing the requirements of the contract, the elevator owner still has one more step to ensure the license remains active – to complete the annual verification of compliance.

WHAT THE LAW SAYS:

Section 399.061, F.S.

(1)(b) A statement verifying the existence and performance of each service maintenance contract must be filed at least annually with the division and as prescribed by rule. Cancellation of a service maintenance contract must be reported to the division as prescribed by rule.

Rule 61C-5.013, F.A.C.

(2)(a) The owner or lessee, when owner responsibilities are specifically assigned by lease, must

In order to obtain a certificate of operation without having an inspection, the elevator owner must verify the existence and performance of the service maintenance contract. The verification is entered in the elevator's license record and qualifies the license for renewal without an inspection. The license fee is still required.

Elevator owners are also required to notify the division within 30 days if the contract is cancelled, expired or transferred to a new owner. The two-stop exemption does not automatically transfer to a new elevator owner and a new verification is required.

The public may view the status of the two-stop exemption on DBPR's website by searching for the license and viewing the “Two Stop” qualification. Related license information provides the effective date of the most recent verification, starting in 2016.

An elevator owner may request the REC to submit the required verification for them, but the legal responsibility to verify the contract remains with the elevator owner. RECs are not required to submit the verification for the owner and may decline the request.

verify the existence of a valid service maintenance contract on a two-stop elevator or other conveyance in order for the elevator to qualify for the annual inspection exemption under section 399.061(1), F.S. Annual verification is required to renew the certificate of operation without obtaining a current satisfactory inspection.

(b) The registered elevator company holding a service maintenance contract for a two-stop elevator or other conveyance may, upon the owner's request, verify the existence of a valid service maintenance contract.

Last year, the division mailed a reminder to complete the annual verification. A reminder is not being mailed this year, but verification should still be submitted to comply with the law.

Verifications can be submitted throughout the year. Since license renewals are due by July 31, 2016, the division recommends submitting the verification between August and March to allow time to process the paperwork before the license is renewed.

The division provides a form to allow an owner to complete verification for up to three buildings under contract with the same REC. DBPR Form HR 5023-060, Verification of Service Maintenance Contract, is available on DBPR's website. The form can be submitted by fax, mail or email. Please do not submit the form more than once without confirming receipt by the division.

The division randomly inspects elevators with the two-stop exemption to ensure that they are being maintained properly. A two-stop exemption may be cancelled if the division finds an elevator does not meet the minimum requirements.

To assist with maintaining correct license records, the division requests RECs to notify the division if an elevator is no longer covered by a qualifying service maintenance contract.



A two-stop elevator that is exempt from inspection needs more than just an annual test. While proof of periodic tests is part of the equation, it is not the whole story and will not by itself allow an elevator to meet the requirements for the two-stop exemption.



Hot Topic Q&A - Location Address Changes

Q. How do I update the building address for my elevator(s) license?

A. The building address where an elevator is physically located is called the location address. The division must verify a location address before changing the address in our records. If your location address needs to be changed, please contact the division to request a location address change. Then, a state inspector will stop by the building to verify the location address.

Q. How do I update the location address for my registered elevator company (REC) license?

A. If your REC license location address is not correct or has changed, please notify us in writing of the new address. Make sure to include the licensed REC name and license number, to ensure we change to correct account.



Certificates of Operation Expire August 1; Renewals Due July 31

All elevator owners are reminded to renew their certificates of operation before they expire on August 1, 2016. To renew a certificate of operation, the elevator owner must pay the required license fee, any delinquent fees owed and must have a passing routine inspection completed within the last year or have a valid two-stop exemption for a service maintenance contract.

Renewals can be completed online using the "Renew Your License" option on DBPR's website at

www.myfloridalicense.com. The division mails license renewal notices as a courtesy; the owner is responsible for renewing the license even if a renewal notice is not received. Elevator owners or operators may be subject to a fine of up to \$1,000 if a license is not renewed.

Maxwell Erik "Max" Grablin Act Adds Safety Standards for Elevators in Private Residences to Statute, Florida Building Code

The Florida Legislature passed the Maxwell Erik "Max" Grablin Act, which provides specific safety requirements for newly installed elevators in private residences. The new law creates section 399.031, F.S., and specifies clearance requirements for hoistway doors and edges, pressure tolerances for doors and gates, and requires a device on the underside of the platform that will stop downward travel. The law took effect on July 1, 2016, and the requirements are to be added into the Florida Building Code by October 1, 2016.

Despite its location within Chapter 399, F.S., the division does *not* have authority to enforce the new requirements. Elevators and other conveyances in private residences remain excluded from Chapter 399, F.S., and the division's jurisdiction. This law will be enforced through the Florida Building Code by the authorities having jurisdiction over elevators in private residences. Generally, this will be the local building authority. All questions about enforcement should be directed to the local building authority.

Upcoming Meetings & Important Dates

July 2016

4 – Independence Day (*Division offices closed*)

August 2016

1 – Certificates of Operation expire
TBD – Rule workshop on sump pumps (*Contact division for more information*)

September 2016

5 – Labor Day (*Division offices closed*)

October 2016

No planned meetings or events.



Now Hiring!

The division is hiring elevator inspectors for two areas: Pinellas/Sarasota/Highlands and Broward/Miami-Dade/Monroe. Advertisements will be posted on the state's employment website, [People First](#).



If you are interested in serving the people of the state of Florida, apply online through [People First](#).