



State of Wisconsin \ Department of Commerce

Report From Agency

# **RULES IN FINAL DRAFT FORM**

**Rule No.:**

**Comm 18.1702**

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**Relating to:**

**Suspension Ropes and Their  
Connections Serving Elevators**

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**Clearinghouse Rule  
No.:**

**09-012**

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COM-10535 (N.03/97)

The Wisconsin Department of Commerce proposes to adopt an order to:  
amend Comm 18 Subchapter V (title), Comm 18 Subchapter VI (title) and Comm 18.1800;  
repeal s. Comm 18.1702 (8); and  
renumber ss. Comm 18.1702 (9) and (10) relating to a wear and fatigue monitoring system  
and a device that protects against suspension loss for electric traction elevators that use  
smaller sized wire ropes.

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**Analysis of Rule**

**1. Statutes Interpreted**

Sections 101.02 (15) (h) to (j), 101.17, 101.63 (1), and 101.981 to 101.985, and 101.988, Stats.

**2. Statutory Authority**

Sections 101.02 (15) (h) to (j), 101.17, 101.63 (1), and 101.981 to 101.985 and 101.988, Stats.

**3. Related Statute or Rule**

Chapters Comm 60 to 66, Wisconsin Commercial Building Code  
Chapters Comm 20 to 25, Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code

**4. Explanation of Agency Authority**

Under the authority of ss. 101.17, 101.63 and 101.982, Stats., the Department has the authority to promulgate rules for the safe installation and operation of conveyances (elevators, escalators and lift devices). Under the authority of ss. 101.17, 101.983 and 101.988, Stats., the Department has the authority to promulgate rules for required permits, inspection and enforcement of the technical standards. Currently, the Department has fulfilled this responsibility by promulgating the Elevators, Escalators and Lift Devices Code, chapter Comm 18.

**5. Summary of Proposed Rule**

The proposed rule repeals a provision that requires a wear and fatigue monitoring system and a device that protects against suspension loss for electric traction elevators using smaller sized wire ropes. The repeal is necessary because the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) did not incorporate a similar provision into the latest edition of its national A17.1 standard that is adopted by reference in Comm 18 which became effective January 1, 2009.

Nationally, conveyance equipment is designed and manufactured to meet the ASME A17.1 standard.

The proposed rule also contains some minor changes regarding the referencing of national standards to make the format more consistent throughout chapter Comm 18.

## **6. Summary of, and Comparison with, Existing or Proposed Federal Regulations**

An Internet-based search of the code of federal regulations and the federal register did not identify any federal requirements relating to requiring a wear and fatigue monitoring system or a device that protects against suspension loss in electric traction elevators. There are no existing or proposed federal regulations that address the specific issue or impact the activities to be regulated by this proposed rule.

## **7. Comparison with Rules in Adjacent States**

An Internet-based search found that all of the adjacent states adopt by reference certain editions of the ASME A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators. The adjacent states also create amendments to the adopted standard similar to Wisconsin's administrative rules relating to elevators, escalators and lift devices.

None of the elevator or escalator regulatory programs in the states of Illinois, Iowa, Michigan or Minnesota had specific rules or standards regarding the wear and fatigue monitoring system or the device that protects against suspension loss for electric traction elevators as addressed by the Wisconsin rule being repealed by this proposed rule.

## **8. Summary of Factual Data and Analytical Methodologies**

The proposed rule was developed using information gathered when the department learned that the ASME A17.1 Committee was not incorporating the section relating to the wear and fatigue monitoring system and the device that protects against suspension loss for electric traction elevators into its next edition of the national A17.1, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators. The current edition of the national standard for the design and construction of conveyance serves as the basis for the proposed rule as well as for the remainder of chapter Comm 18.

In addition, the department involved the Conveyance Safety Code Council in its review and assessment process. Council members represent many stakeholders involved in the conveyance industry, including manufacturers, inspectors, building contractors and the general public as users of the conveyances.

## **9. Analysis and Supporting Documents used to Determine Effect on Small Business or in Preparation of Economic Impact Report**

The department believes the proposed rule will not increase the effect on small businesses from what the current rules impose on them. An economic impact report has not been required pursuant to s. 227.137, Stats.

## **10. Agency Contact.**

Larry Swaziek, Program Manager, [Larry.swaziek@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Larry.swaziek@wisconsin.gov), (608) 267-7701.

**11. Public Hearing Comments.**

The hearing record on this proposed rule will remain open until March 13, 2009. Written comments about the proposed rule may be submitted to Larry Swaziek at the Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 2689, Madison, WI 53701-2689, or email at larry.swaziek@wisconsin.gov.

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SECTION 1. Comm 18, Subchapter V (title) is amended to read:

SUBCHAPTER V – CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO ASME A 17.1 – 2000

SECTION 2. Comm 18.1702 (8) is repealed.

SECTION 3. Comm 18.1702 (9) and (10) are renumbered Comm 18.1702 (8) and (9).

SECTION 4 Comm 18, Subchapter VI (title) and 18.1800 are amended to read:

SUBCHAPTER VI – CHANGES, ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO ASME A 18.1 – 2005

Comm 18.1800 Changes, additions or omissions to ASME A 18.1. Changes, additions or omissions to the ASME A 18.1—2005 are specified in this subchapter and are rules of the department and are not requirements of the ASME A 18.1.

**(END)**

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**EFFECTIVE DATE**

Pursuant to s. 227.24, Stats., this rule shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the *Wisconsin Administrative Register*.

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