

**A GUIDE TO THE NEW EUROPEAN LIFT STANDARDS:
EN81-20 and EN81-50
EFFECTIVE FROM 1ST SEPTEMBER 2017**



**THIS DOCUMENT IS FOR GUIDANCE PURPOSES ONLY. FOR FULL DETAILS PLEASE REFER TO THE
OFFICIAL STANDARDS DOCUMENTS.**

EN 81-20 and EN 81-50 are the new European Standards for lift design and manufacture issued by the British Standards Institution (BSI) and released in August 2014.

The new standards apply to both passenger and goods passenger lifts and are set to have a major impact on the entire building and construction industry. They will bring benefits in terms of safety and accessibility for passengers and service personnel.

The new standards will be effective from 1st September 2017.

What are the new standards?

EN81-20 defines the technical requirements for the construction of lifts.

EN81-50 covers the design rules, calculations, tests and examination of lift components.

They both replace the current EN81-1 and EN81-2 standards.

When do the new standards come into effect?

1st September 2017. Any project that is likely to have a lift placed into service after 31st August 2017 will need to comply with both these standards.

It is recommended that you start planning with EN81-20 and EN81-50 in mind now.

Why the changes?

The main aim is to make lifts safer and more comfortable for passengers and the people that service them

Do I need to upgrade an existing lift in a building?

No. The new standard only affects lifts installed after 31st August 2017. This includes replacements of lifts in existing buildings. Lifts that are already in operation don't need upgrades.

Are there changes that will affect building design?

Yes. The EN81-20 standard introduces some changes the building designer will have to achieve. These apply to the lift shaft during construction:

- Additional strength required for the safety glass used in the lift car or in shaft construction.
- Shaft walls to withstand 1000N.
- Shaft ventilation is the responsibility of the building designer.
- Option to locate a fire extinguisher in the shaft. The activation of the sprinkler will only be possible when the lift is stationary at a landing and electrical circuits within the shaft are switched off by a fire or smoke detection system.



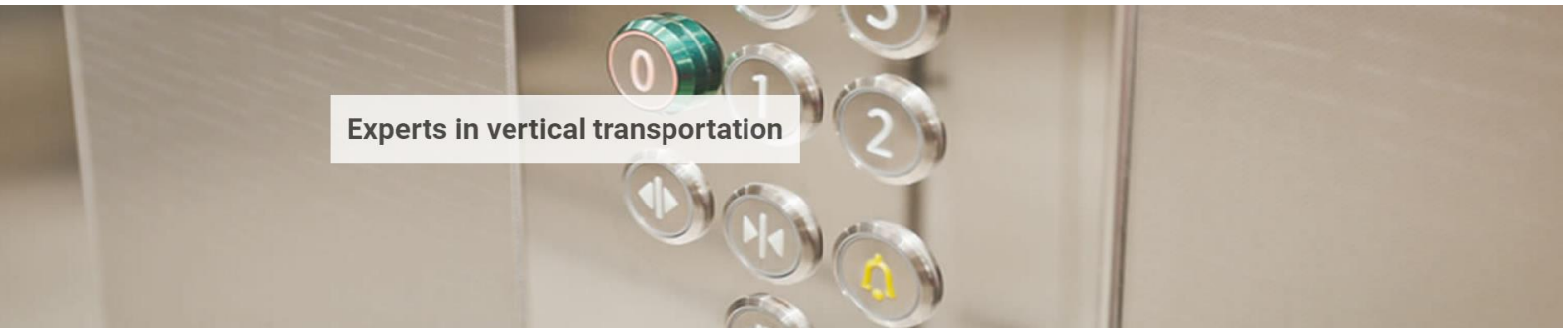
What are the main changes?

Passenger safety and comfort

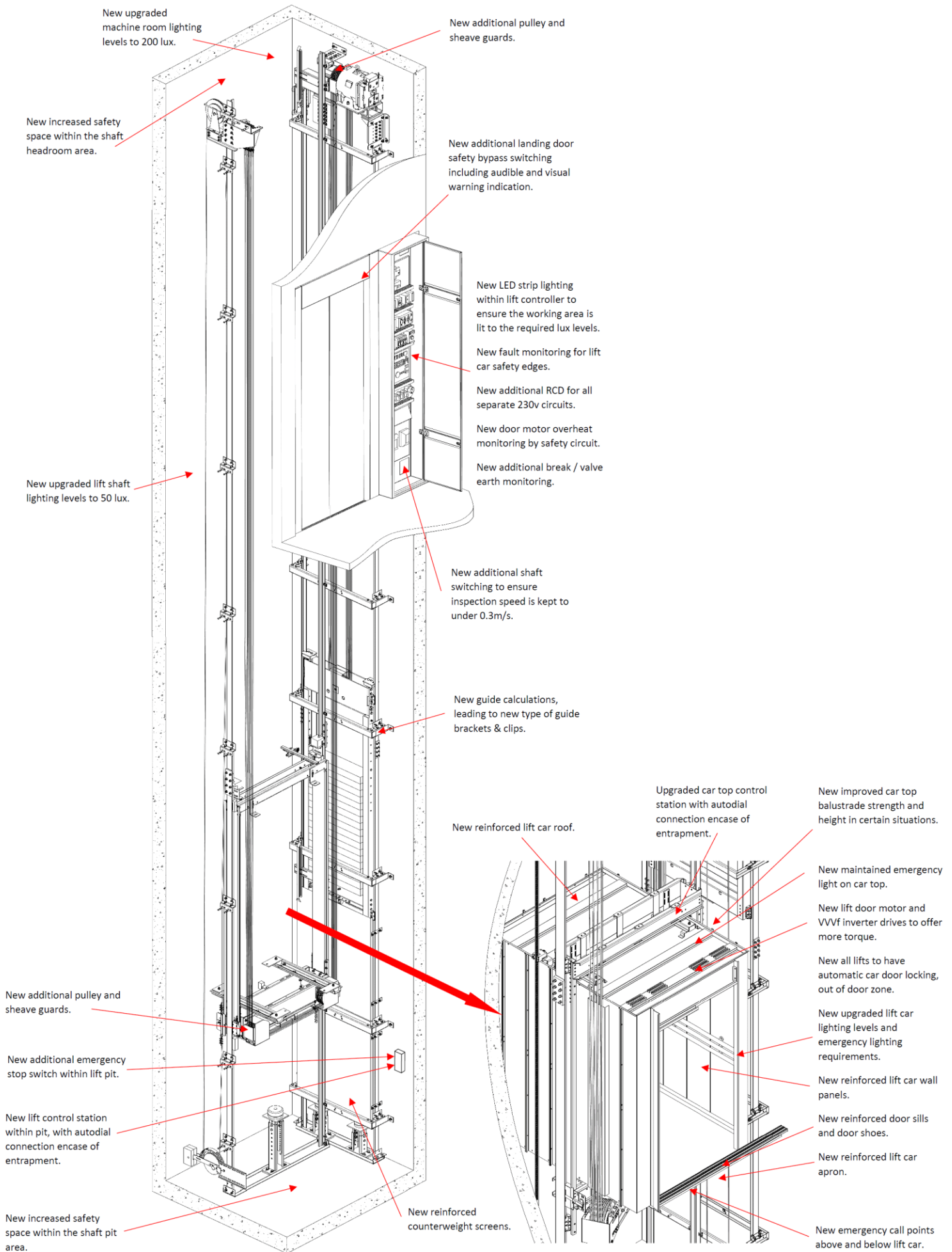
- Brighter car lighting including brighter emergency lighting.
- Higher requirements for strength of landing and car doors
- Improved clearance of light curtain to avoid smaller objects being trapped
- Safety glass for mirrors
- Higher requirements for fire resistance car interiors
- Building shrinkage considered in lift design for buildings higher than 40 meters to ensure greater ride quality
- Wider emergency exit in the car roof
- Greater protection around unintended movement and overspeed.

Service personnel safety and comfort

- Larger permanent safety spaces in the lift shaft, headroom and pit
- Brighter shaft lighting
- Increased safety when working and testing within a pit
- Mandatory lift control panel with stop button in the lift pit
- Improved strength of counterweight screen in lift pit
- Guidance for ledges within the lift shaft
- Improved strength and increased height of balustrade on car roof



Experts in vertical transportation



LIFT SHAFT EQUIPMENT

LIFT CAR IN SHAFT



For further information or quotation for a new or replacement lift please contact:

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