

The Insider



National Elevator Industry, Inc.

July 16, 2014



National Elevator Industry, Inc. Celebrates 100 Years

In the last 100 years architecture has changed the urban landscape across the country. Skyscrapers have reached greater heights and technology has brought innovative ways to move faster, travel higher, and provide safer building mobility for billions of people.

While the world looks drastically different than it did a century ago, the National Elevator Industry, Inc. (NEII®) continues to be a key driver and champion of innovation and improved safety codes and standards. As an organization, NEII's values and mission remain consistent with our inaugural intent, establishing ourselves as an influential force in the promotion and advocacy of the latest safety codes and standards, endorsing the adoption of the latest model codes by local government agencies and encouraging the introduction of safe, innovative building transportation technology.

As NEII proudly takes a look back on its rich history, we are thankful for the unwavering support from our members and the partnerships that have sustained us as the premier trade association in the elevator industry.

1914 - Today

NEII's first meeting took place in 1914 at the Iroquois Hotel in Buffalo, New York. It was there that the Elevator Manufacturers Association (EMA), NEII's predecessor, was established in response to the changing metropolitan environments and the need for elevator safety codes to protect the riding public. In 1917, NEII developed the first model elevator code which would serve as the basis for the original ASME A17.1 safety code.



Over the next few decades, NEII published the Model State Law for Elevators, Dumbwaiters and Escalators as well as a handbook of Safety Regulations for Field Employees, and became a trusted resource for code development organizations and legislative bodies looking for input on building transportation issues. Since then, we have shared our expertise with countless authorities including numerous state legislatures, the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the International Union of Elevator Constructors (IUEC) members and others to enhance safety and the adoption of innovative technology nationwide.

Innovation

With a keen understanding of the role of evolving technology in ensuring safety, *NEII* has always been supportive of the safe introduction of industry innovation. By the new millennium, *NEII* recognized the need for a performance-based safety code for elevators and escalators with a uniform structural approach for testing emerging tools and equipment. After taking a leadership role in the ASME A17 New Technology Committee charged with its development, *NEII* was proud to have been involved in the introduction of the first Performance-Based Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators ASME A17.7/CSA B44.7 in 2007.

With the introduction of technologies such as energy efficient destination-dispatch systems, machine room-less elevators and regenerative drives, *NEII* is helping the building transportation industry safely implement innovative and sustainable products designed for the buildings of tomorrow.

NEII In the Future

NEII has achieved many industry firsts since that initial meeting in 1914. As we celebrate its centennial year, we also look to the future where our work in the development of safety codes and standards will continue to remain a top priority. Our work in government affairs, pushing for the adoption of all the latest ASME safety codes without local modifications will also continue to make our industry safer.

We are excited to share our vision for the elevator industry, while effecting positive change for future generations of codes and standards, safety and technological innovation. Please join us in celebrating 100 years of *NEII* and working together to ensure that the next 100 years are even better!

Have a comment or question for the experts? Want to submit a topic for a future issue of the newsletter? Send us your thoughts at theinsider@neii.org to keep the conversation going!

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