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Division of Occupational Safety and Health  
ELEVATOR UNIT HEADQUARTERS  
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## MEMORANDUM

Date: 4/30/2020

**TO: All Interested Parties**

**SUBJECT: Elevator Car Emergency Two-Way Communication Equipment**

The Division does not consider telephone signal equipment to be elevator equipment and has not permitted this equipment to reside in elevator machine rooms, control rooms, or control spaces.

*Note: Current Construction Specification Institute (CSI) guidelines, as referenced in elevator industry brochures, specifications, and plans require other trades (see CSI section 27 32 23) to furnish and install the communication equipment in a location outside the machine room or control room, and to supply one (1) dedicated outside telephone line, per elevator, terminated at or near the elevator controller as directed by the elevator installer.*

Elevator rooms and spaces are set aside for the exclusive purpose of housing elevator machinery, controllers, and equipment directly related to the safe and reliable operation of the elevator. Due to the inherent mechanical and electrical hazards associated with this equipment, these rooms and spaces are secured against unauthorized access (see California Electric Code §620.71).

The Division will continue to require permanent communication system wiring, installed in accordance with the California Electric Code (CEC), from the elevator control equipment to a suitable building location outside the elevator machine/control room/space for all new and altered elevators. This wiring infrastructure will be verified during initial and alteration inspections of the elevator. If at any time a communication equipment contractor requires access to the elevator controller to facilitate a connection to the in-car emergency communications means (phone), only a Certified Competent Conveyance Mechanic (CCCM), in the employ of a Certified Qualified Conveyance Company (CQCC) shall provide this access.

Elevator equipment manufacturers have recently developed integrated communication equipment (wired and wireless) that can provide a source of signal to the elevator in-car emergency phone. This equipment, supplied by the elevator equipment manufacturer, is intended to provide the same safety function typically provided by communication equipment manufacturers and contractors. The Division will permit the installation of equipment for this purpose in the elevator machine/control room/space, only when installed, maintained, and repaired by a CCCM in the employ of a CQCC. This communication equipment shall conform to the applicable requirements of the CEC, including maintenance access and working space. The required machine/control room/space duplex electrical power receptacle shall not be utilized, or obstructed by the installed communication equipment. If the installed communication equipment is connected to an electrical power receptacle, the connection shall be sufficiently secured to prevent unintended disconnection (e.g., seismic event).

Dan Barker

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Barker".

**Lead Safety Engineer  
DOSH – Elevator Unit HQS**