



Australian Elevators Association Limited

## **Impact of COVID-19**

The Australian Elevator Association (AEA) on behalf of its members wishes to advise of the importance of continued maintenance and the provision of related services to all owners.

The lift industry needs to be able to continue to provide essential services to all businesses owners and occupiers in relation to the safe movement of people and goods during this unprecedented period and as such believe that this service our members provide should be classified as a key service provider.

Most buildings require vertical transportation (lifts and escalators) to ensure people can travel to their destination, exit the building or be available for emergency evacuation. This is essential to a functioning safe building.

For office and apartment buildings, hospitals and supermarkets to remain functional the lift industry has an obligations under the Work Health & Safety Legislation to ensure that breakdowns, repairs, maintenance and safety inspections can be undertaken to ensure the safe operation of vertical transport is maintained.

Lift technicians are trained in the correct and safe process for attending passengers in trapped elevators rather than other emergency service personnel who could be facing their own challenges.

Other countries like the UK have deemed lift technicians as a key service provider and put actions in place to ensure that buildings, businesses, hospitals and the like can continue to function.

Access for lift service technicians to ensure the above obligations and essential requirements, in buildings can be met, must be allowed considering protocols of safe entry, induction, work and workplace practices.

Please contact your service provider and make the necessary arrangements to ensure we work through this unpredicted and evolving situation.

Dated 23/3/2020

Rod Austin-Eames  
Chairman of AEA

Noel Smith  
General Manager AEA