

Thorough Examination – Runway Tracks and Lifting Eyes in Lift Wells

Technical Bulletin

Allianz Engineering Inspection Services Ltd



Runway Tracks and Lifting Eyes in Lift Wells

Such items are to be found at the top of the lift well (shaft) and are used for the following:

- Initial installation of the lifts
- Maintenance, repair and component replacement purposes during the service life of the lift. In such situations either the lift can be suspended during component replacement or the Runway Track can be used in conjunction with a chain block to replace hoisting components with the lift supported
- Emergency release of the lift (and possibly even its passengers) in a severe breakdown situation. Where the safety gear has engaged, the lift may have to be hoisted to release the safety gear
- Hoisting of ancillary lift pit equipment such as water pumps at locations with low water tables.

In certain instances rather than having Runway Tracks there may be dedicated Lifting Eyes either screwed into structural members or resin secured into a lift well lintel.

Runway Tracks and Lifting Eyes in Motor Rooms

Such items can be found at the ceiling level of the motor rooms and are used for the following:

- Initial installation of the lift and/or lift hoisting gear
- Maintenance, repair and component replacement purposes during the service life of the lift
- Maintenance, repair and component replacement purposes for the ancillary equipment that can often be found in certain sections of the lift motor room relating to building services and not necessarily the lift.

The examination attempts to ascertain the lifting capacity (Safe Working Load) of the Runway Track in order to ensure that all who use the equipment are aware of its limiting capability, avoiding potential overload. The condition of the end fixings is considered not only with regard to the as seen condition but also integrity in relation to the SWL stipulated. Very often it is found that the end fixings are merely brick layers with infill mortar which through time, in conjunction with moisture ingress, have degraded. Finally a conclusion is made as to the integrity of the Track structure itself.

Runway Tracks and Lifting Eyes are primarily Goods carrying items (regardless of the extreme emergency person release issue raised above) and as such should be examined at least once every 12 months. There should be no need for the runway tracks or lifting eyes to require examination every 6 months simply because the lift is a Passenger/Goods Lift.

Where a client/broker does not wish us to examine the Runway Tracks then they are quite within their rights to advise us to exclude the items from the schedule. Where such requests for exclusion are documented then we would comply accordingly.