



June 6, 2013

To: Elevator Industry and Other Interested Parties

Re: Changes to Elevator Licensing and Inspection Laws

Licensing and inspection laws related to elevator work were significantly amended by the 2013 Legislature. Except for the changes related to elevator inspection fees, the changes become effective July 1, 2013. Elevator contractors and elevator constructors are currently licensed under sections 326B.31 to 326B.399 that make up the Minnesota Electrical Act. The change in 2013 Session Law Chapter 85 results in the elevator license requirements to be relocated to sections 326B.163 to 326B.191 relating to elevators. In addition to being relocated, the changes include elevator licenses to be based on elevator technology and not electrical technology. The major portion of an elevator installation is based on elevator technology and elevator code and a minor portion on the electrical code, being the main justification for the change. Aside from being based on elevator technology, the licensing requirements will follow the same basic licensing model that is found in the Minnesota Electrical Act.

The current elevator contractor, master elevator constructor, elevator constructor and registered unlicensed licenses will simply transition to the new license types, which are similarly titled. The new law creates three new categories: limited elevator contractor, limited master elevator constructor and limited journeyman elevator constructor. Limited elevator work includes residential elevators, platform lifts, stairway chair lifts, dumbwaiters, material lifts, limited use or limited application elevator equipment, conveyors and special purpose personnel elevators. The most significant change will require all companies that install elevator equipment to be licensed, bonded, insured and compliant with business, tax and employment law, where under the Electrical Act only those contractors that performed the related electrical work were required to be licensed and to comply with these requirements.

Applications for individual and contractor licenses and registration of unlicensed individuals can be accessed at <http://dli.mn.gov/CCLD/Elevator.asp>. An unofficial copy of sections 326B.163 to 326B.191 as amended by 2013 Session Law Chapter 85 can be accessed from the same page.

2013 Session Law Chapter 85 also includes a change to the elevator permit and inspection fee schedule currently found in Minnesota Rule 1307.0032. Under the current schedule, the inspection fee is based on the valuation of the elevator installation and is capped at \$1,000. In addition to eliminating the \$1,000 cap, the hourly rate for inspections will increase from \$45 to \$80. The fee schedule will also be moved to section 326B.184. These fee changes and moving the fee schedule to section 326B.184 will become effective January 1, 2014.