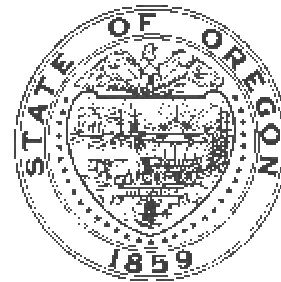


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May 2, 2000

## **ELEVATOR SAFETY PROGRAM CODE INTERPRETATION**

OR-2000-001

Site Specific

Subject: Duct-work in Machine Rooms  
Rule No: ASME A17.1b 1998, Rule 102.1  
ASME Interp: 92-37  
Effective: May 2, 2000

13th & Columbia  
PXE-13648/9

The situation involves a rubbish chute that penetrates the approximate middle of the machine room floor.

The elevator machine room is considered to be a clear area enclosed by four walls and a ceiling. Normally, the square-footage of the machine room is dictated by the equipment to be installed. The floor-to-ceiling height is to be a minimum of 7-ft. clear.

The elevator and electrical code (ref. Art. 620-71) intends that this space be utilized for only elevator equipment. Other equipment necessary for the fire and life-safety and ventilation may be located within the elevator machine room providing it is dedicated for that space. Any other equipment, pipes, ducts or wiring must be located outside the confines of the machine room enclosure and is therefore considered not be in the machine room.

Where a machine room wall, floor or ceiling is penetrated to allow passage of unrelated equipment, it is considered to be within the confines of the machine room, regardless of its fire rating. Thus, it is in violation of Rule 102.1. This installation was not noted on the machine room drawings approved during the elevator plan review. Neither the Uniform Fire Code or the Building Code require this chute to be vented to the roof. According to BCD's plans examiners, the chute may terminate at or just above the last floor served. Thus, there is no need to extend the chute to the roof of the building by code.

The rubbish chute is therefore required to be removed from the machine room. Failure to remove the rubbish chute will cause the elevator operating permits to be withheld until compliance is achieved.

James R. Runyan  
Chief Elevator Inspector

cc: Nick Cerda, Inspector of Record  
Garry Norris, Kone Elevator Co.