



BSI Standards Publication

Safety rules for the construction and installation of lifts — Lifts for the transport of persons and goods

Part 21: New passenger and goods passenger lifts in existing building

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of [EN 81-21:2022](#). It supersedes [BS EN 81-21:2018](#), which will be withdrawn on 31 May 2024.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee MHE/4, Lifts, hoists and escalators.

A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to its committee manager.

This Standard gives alternative requirements for the installation of new lifts into existing buildings where compliance with [BS EN 81-20:2020](#) is not possible due to problems with the existing material fabric of the building, such as the lack of available space for pit and headroom. As such it is intended to be applied as a standard supplementary to BS EN 81-20.

Users of this standard should be aware that the Lifts Regulations 2016 require any lift installed without permanently available refuge space at extremes of travel to be subject to prior approval by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

This refuge space has been agreed with BEIS as being that required in [BS EN 81-20:2020](#), 5.2.5.7.1 and 5.2.5.8.1.

Therefore, lifts installed into existing buildings where such refuge spaces are not permanently available should have prior approval from BEIS.

The UK Committee draws the attention of users of this Standard to its Scope which does not include lifts permanently installed in new buildings. Therefore, the use of this standard for a new lift in a new building, being outside its scope, would require prior approval by BEIS.

In addition, this Standard gives requirements for the continued use of perforate well enclosures, where already installed. Such enclosures have not been described in lift standards since the 1970s and are as such to be avoided where possible. It is not the intention of this standard to allow the installation of new perforate enclosures.

This publication has been prepared under a mandate given to the European Standards Organizations by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association. It is intended to support requirements of the EU legislation detailed in the European Foreword. A European Annex, Annex ZA, describes how this publication relates to that EU legislation.

For the Great Britain market (England, Scotland and Wales), if UK Government designates this publication for conformity with UKCA marking (or similar) legislation, it will be listed on the relevant pages of <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/designated-standards> which will also list the date of withdrawal of the previous designated standard, [EN 81-21:2009+A1:2012](#).

For the Northern Ireland market, UK law will continue to implement relevant EU law subject to periodic confirmation. Therefore Annex ZA in the European text, and references to EU legislation, are still valid for this market.

UK Government is responsible for legislation. For information on legislation and policies relating to that legislation, consult the relevant pages of www.gov.uk.

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Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

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