

Division 20 --- ESCALATORS AND PASSENGER CONVEYORS

Escalators and passenger conveyors provide means of vertical and horizontal transportation within a building respectively.

MANDATORY SECTION

Performance Objectives

84. Requirements for Escalators and Passenger Conveyors

Escalators or passenger conveyors are not considered part of a barrier-free route of travel. However, adequate warning or guarding shall be provided alongside and at each end of the escalators and passenger conveyors for the safety of persons with visual impairment.

Obligatory Design Requirements

85. Tactile Warning Strips

- (1) Tactile warning strips shall be provided at both bottom and top ends of an escalator. The provision of tactile warning strips is illustrated in Figure 36.
- (2) Tactile warning strips shall be provided at both ends of a passenger conveyor. The provision of tactile warning strips is illustrated in Figure 36.

BEST PRACTICE SECTION

A. Design Considerations

- (a) Escalator can be a useful addition to stair and lift where significant height difference has to be negotiated, but it should be designed with slower speed for the safety use by persons with visual impairment and the elderly.
- (b) The angle of inclination of escalator should not exceed 30°.
- (c) Adequate distance for horizontal movement of steps is required at the top and bottom of escalator to ensure that passengers – especially those leaving the escalator – have adequate space and time to board and alight safely.

Design Considerations (Cont'd)

- (d) Step edge should be clearly defined with colour in sufficient luminous contrast with the background, e.g. yellow colour against dark grey steps.
- (e) Moving handrail should be in luminous contrast with the background.
- (f) Passenger conveyor may be used when there is substantial traveling distance between pedestrian entrance and vehicular access point, e.g. in an airport terminal. It is mechanically similar to escalator which may be level or inclined.
- (g) The same principles of luminous contrast as for escalator should apply to passenger conveyor.
- (h) There must always be an alternative pedestrian route provided.

B. Recommended Design Requirements

Audio Indicator

- (a) For escalator and passenger conveyor, clear signal or indication for going up / down or moving forward should be provided on both ends, e.g. consistent clear sound or signals.

Alternative Access

- (b) Where there is an accessible lift that provides alternative access route for persons with a disability, it should be near to, and clearly shown by a sign posted at the entry to the escalator.