




CHERIE BERRY
COMMISSIONER

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BUREAU CHIEF
ELEVATOR AND AMUSEMENT DEVICE BUREAU

DATE: July 9, 2018

MEMORANDUM TO: Elevator Companies

FROM: 
Thomas M. Chambers
Bureau Chief

RE: Follow-up to Soft Starts memo April 3, 2017

This is a follow up to the memorandum issued April 3, 2017 regarding the installation of soft starts.

First, I would like to reiterate that test weights are *not* required or needed while performing an inspection of a soft start installation. Horsepower and Amperage ratings on the soft start must correspond with the rating listed on the pump motor data tag. The amperage fault rate setting must be more than the total amperage than generated when the car is on the stop ring or while the gate valve is in the closed position (should be the same with either process) to eliminate possible entrapments. To achieve the necessary amperage when performing the test, the gate valve can be closed or the car put on the stop ring and an amperage reading taken. The soft start can then be adjusted to fault at or slightly below the amperage reading obtained. It should then be adjusted at the maximum motor amperage or slightly less than what is listed on the motor data tag. There are two numbers listed for the maximum motors amps on the data tag, the lower is for 480 volts the higher is for 208 volts.

A relevel test should also be performed to verify that the on/start motor delay timer is correctly set to allow the unit to relevel as per code. On soft starts that do not have displays (Allen Bradley or others), refer to manufacturer's installation manual for set up procedures to utilize the above testing procedure. When drive units are repaired or replaced, the requirement for the test weights *are* required. The elevator will be tested with 100% of the capacity to ensure that that unit will operate fully with the rated load. The elevator will also be required to lower, stop, and hold 125% of the load.

TC/cs