

2021 Virginia Construction Code

CHAPTER 30 ELEVATORS AND CONVEYING SYSTEMS

SECTION 3002 HOISTWAY ENCLOSURES

3002.1 Hoistway enclosure protection.

Elevator, dumbwaiter and other hoistway enclosures shall be *shaft enclosures* complying with [Sections 712 and 713](#).

3002.1.1 Opening protectives.

Openings in hoistway enclosures shall be protected as required in [Chapter 7](#).

Exception: The elevator car doors and the associated hoistway enclosure doors at the floor level designated for recall in accordance with [Section 3003.2](#) shall be permitted to remain open during Phase I Emergency Recall Operation.

3002.1.2 Hardware.

Hardware on opening protectives shall be of an *approved* type installed as tested, except that *approved* interlocks, mechanical locks and electric contacts, door and gate electric contacts and door-operating mechanisms shall be exempt from the fire test requirements.

3002.2 Number of elevator cars in a hoistway.

Where four or more elevator cars serve all or the same portion of a building, the elevators shall be located in not fewer than two separate hoistways. Not more than four elevator cars shall be located in any single hoistway enclosure.

3002.3 Emergency signs.

An *approved* pictorial sign of a standardized design shall be posted adjacent to each elevator call station on all floors instructing occupants to use the exit stairways and not to use the elevators in case of fire. The sign shall read: IN CASE OF FIRE, ELEVATORS ARE OUT OF SERVICE. USE EXIT STAIRS.

Exceptions:

1. The emergency sign shall not be required for elevators that are part of an *accessible* means of egress complying with [Section 1009.4](#).
2. The emergency sign shall not be required for elevators that are used for occupant self-evacuation in accordance with [Section 3008](#).

3002.4 Elevator car to accommodate ambulance stretcher.

Where elevators are provided in buildings four or more *stories* above, or four or more *stories* below, *grade plane*, not fewer than one elevator shall be provided for fire department emergency access to all floors. The elevator car shall be of such a size and arrangement to accommodate an ambulance stretcher 24 inches by 84 inches (610 mm by 2134 mm) with not less than 5-inch (127 mm) radius corners, in the horizontal, open position and shall be identified by the international symbol for emergency medical services (star of life). The symbol shall be not less than 3 inches (76 mm) in height and shall be placed inside on both sides of the hoistway door frame.

Exception: Elevators in multistory dwelling units or guest rooms.

3002.5 Emergency doors.

Where an elevator is installed in a single blind hoistway or on the outside of a building, there shall be installed in the blind portion of the hoistway or blank face of the building, an emergency door in accordance with [ASME A17.1/CSA B44](#).

3002.6 Prohibited doors.

Doors, other than hoistway doors and the elevator car door, shall be prohibited at the point of access to an elevator car unless such doors are readily openable from the car side without a key, tool, special knowledge or effort.

3002.7 Common enclosure with *stairway*.

Elevators shall not be in a common *shaft enclosure* with a *stairway*.

Exception: Elevators within *open parking garages* need not be separated from *stairway enclosures*.

3002.8 Glass in elevator enclosures.

Glass in elevator enclosures shall comply with [Section 2409.2](#).

3002.9 Plumbing and mechanical systems.

Plumbing and mechanical systems shall not be located in an elevator hoistway enclosure.

Exception: Floor drains, sumps and sump pumps shall be permitted at the base of the hoistway enclosure provided that they are indirectly connected to the plumbing system.

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