

MINE ELEVATORS

Several entrapments have occurred where mine elevators have stopped in the shaft hoistway or have failed to properly align with the landing. Elevators at mines and preparation plants share equipment common to elevators found in office buildings, schools, and hospitals. Elevators are equipped with a number of safety devices designed to prevent the elevator car from falling or running away. There have been two documented cases of an elevator car going into a free fall. One was during World War II, when an American bomber accidentally hit the Empire State Building and cut the elevator cables. The other was at a mine when a repair crew overloaded the elevator car during an attempt to change multiple cables at one time and caused the worn cables to snap.



BEST PRACTICES

- ✓ Never try to leave a stalled car. You can easily fall down the elevator shaft if the car is not aligned with the landing.
- ✓ Do not interfere with the door operation on elevators equipped with automatic doors.
- ✓ Do not slam or force the doors on elevators equipped with manual doors.
- ✓ If the doors don't open, ring the emergency call button, and/or use the telephone to call for qualified people who can assist.
- ✓ Watch your step when entering and exiting the elevator.
- ✓ Ensure that the required daily examinations and two month safety catch tests are conducted.

