

9 LIFTS

9.1 General

9.1.1 Lifts

All accessible lifts shall comply with 9.2 of this Standard, with NZBC D2.3.5 and NZS 4332.

Platform lifts and stair lifts shall not be used as an alternative to this requirement.

9.1.2 Signs

Accessible lifts shall be clearly sign-posted.

9.1.3 Provision of lifts

9.1.3.1 General

An accessible route shall include a lift to upper floors where:

- (a) Buildings are four or more storeys high;
- (b) The upper floor(s) of any building are to be used as the public reception areas of:
 - (i) Banks
 - (ii) Central government offices or government agencies
 - (iii) Regional government offices
 - (iv) Local government offices and facilities.
- (c) The upper floor(s) are designed or intended to be used as:
 - (i) Public areas of hospitals, medical consulting rooms, dental surgeries, and other primary health care centres
 - (ii) Places of public assembly for 250 or more people
 - (iii) Public libraries.

9.1.3.2 Two and three storey buildings

Where 9.1.3.1 is not applicable a lift is not required when:

- (a) Buildings are two storeys high and have a gross floor area of the upper floor of less than 400 m²;
- (b) Buildings are three storeys high and have a gross floor area of the upper floors of less than 500 m²;

provided that the ground floor complies with the requirements of this Standard and the upper floors have access for ambulant people with disabilities.

9.1.4 Lift cars and lift installation

The NZBC requirements for mechanical installations on accessible routes are defined in NZBC Clause D2, D2.3.5 (refer to Appendix B).

C9.1.1

The requirements relating to lifts in buildings to which the access requirements apply, have the effect of requiring lifts to be designed so that they are usable by all users, whether they have disabilities or not.

C9.2.2.1

The minimum dimensions of the lift car as shown in this Standard allow an attendant and other passengers to use the lift at the same time as a wheelchair user. This size does not allow many wheelchairs to turn through 180°.

C9.2.3

The door width of 900 mm shown in figure 26, is required so that a wheelchair user can easily enter the lift during the pause period of 5 seconds. The width and depth of the lift car are also designed to promote ease of entry.

C9.2.4

Tactile and visual controls assist blind people and others with impaired vision. Such control buttons can be designated by raised or indented standard alphabet characters or letters.

9.2 Design

Figure 26 shows the main requirements for lifts, but these should not prevent other designs, systems and technological developments from being permitted. The Standard does not specify all the requirements for an accessible lift, i.e. its speed or its construction.

9.2.1 Lift foyer

The unobstructed depth of floor in front of lift doors shall be not less than 1800 mm.

9.2.2 Lift cars**9.2.2.1 Size**

Lifts serving an accessible route shall have a minimum interior clear space of 1400 mm by 1400 mm as shown in figure 26.

9.2.2.2 Levelling accuracy

The levelling accuracy of the lift car at each landing shall be within a tolerance of + or – 20 mm under all loading conditions.

9.2.3 Lift doors

The lift door installation shall provide for the following:

- (a) Lift doors shall open sideways and be power operated;
- (b) Lift doors shall provide a minimum clear opening of 900 mm;
- (c) The doors shall remain open for not less than 5 seconds before the passenger protective device becomes operative;
- (d) Passenger protective devices shall be provided to ensure that car and landing doors will not close while the opening is obstructed, subject to the delayed closing provisions which operate if the door is held open for more than 10 seconds; and
- (e) Lift doors shall be of a clear colour contrast with respect to their surroundings.

9.2.4 Lift controls

Lift controls, whether in the lift lobby or in the lift car, shall be situated between 900 – 1350 mm above floor level (see figure 26). Controls shall comply with the following requirements:

- (a) Call buttons shall have a tactile distinction from the faceplate. Buttons shall have a positive movement for actuation and shall have a width or diameter of not less than 20 mm.
- (b) Raised or indented designations for control buttons shall be placed immediately to the left of the button to which they apply and shall have a minimum height of 15 mm, see figure 26;
- (c) The alarm button or emergency telephone shall not be higher than 1350 mm above finished floor level;
- (d) Designations in Braille shall be placed immediately to the left of the standard designation.

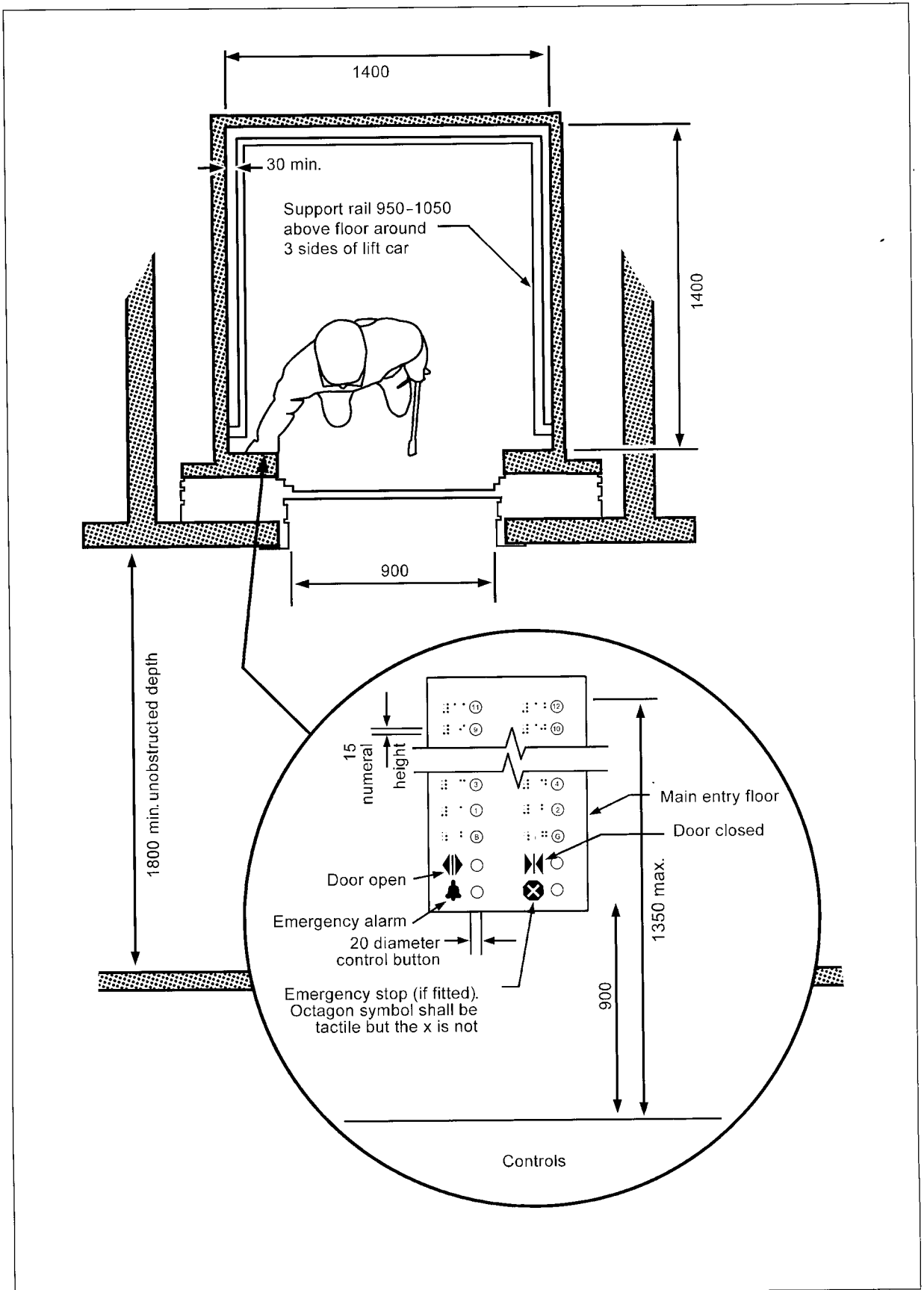


Figure 26 - Lift car dimensions and control panel

9.2.5 Lift indicators

Lift indicators shall be provided as follows:

- (a) 'Lift coming' or 'call accepted' indicator. These shall be provided at each landing.
- (b) 'Lift arrival' and 'lift direction' indicators. These shall be provided at each lift landing and shall be signalled in advance both visually and audibly. The visual signal shall be an illuminated arrow. The audible signal shall be two gongs to indicate downward travel and one gong upward travel.
- (c) Lift position indicator. A visible and whenever possible, audible lift position indicator shall be provided. The visible position indicator shall be fitted in the lift so those passengers facing the main doorway can easily read it.
- (d) Floor indicators. In all cases where audible signals e.g. voice announcements, of floor level are not used, raised tactile numbers shall be provided on the leading edge of landing doors, or on the entrance architrave as close as practical to the landing doors, to indicate the floor level position of the lift. These tactile numbers shall have a raised profile, be not less than 20 mm in height and shall be sited 1350 mm above finished floor level.

In this situation, tactile numbers on the leading edge of the lift door are the only way a blind person can find out what floor the lift has stopped at.

On any lift covering more than three floors on an accessible route an audible indication of floor level shall be used. It is preferable that audible indicators are also used on lifts of only two and three storeys.

9.2.6 Support rails

Support rails shall be provided in lifts. Support rails shall be on all walls except those in which doors are installed. Such rails shall provide for a minimum clear finger space of 30 mm from the wall surface, have a recommended diameter of 30 – 40 mm, and shall be installed between 950 – 1050 mm above the finished floor level.