



The New Zealand LIFT FAX



The New Zealand Lift Fax is produced bi-monthly for the NZ lift industry. Just send your email address to LEC to subscribe.

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WHAT'S GOING UP or DOWN THIS MONTH:

DEREK BRYSON RETIRES FROM OTIS:

There comes a time for us all and by the time it comes around we are usually prepared for it, but last week saw the retirement of Derek Bryson who has played a pivotal role in the New Zealand Lift Industry over the past decades. Discussion has it that in one company in NZ the average age of employees with technical skill was around 54 at present and rising, a testament to the loss of experience we are seeing in the likes of Derek retiring. (see article).

JUST PASSING THROUGH KONE:

After just on two years, Terry Timms; (KONE South Island Manager) has been drawn to the excitement of a new challenge, in managing Leigh Constructions Ltd new engineering expansion, which includes contracts in the Antarctic. It seems they are expanding their operations onto the ice and have tantalised Terry with an offer he could not refuse. We wish you well Terry and hope what you got out of the lift industry will put you in good stead in the deep-south. Fafafafarewell Frfrfrfriend.

EDITORIAL.

BEEN THERE DONE THAT, WHAT'S DIFFERENT?

You may be under the mistaken belief that now that the Building Act 2004 is in place as of Nov 1st, that after your long read you can ask, "what's new other than the numonics"! and get on with it.

Not so easy my good friend, it went so well for the Government that now every Tom Dick and Harry want to socially engineer the building industry and you along with it.

Now that the Professionals are back on board after 10 years and have ensured their "proper place" under the 2004 Act, everyone else has to become Licensed. But as I endeavour to step above the politics, what may be of concerns is that the lift industry hasn't shown similar leadership to bring its experience into the compliance process.

This void to having a *consistent and safe commissioning and consent documenting process of new lifts* throughout NZ under the 1991 Act, reflects in a similar Compliance Schedule shambles with annual WOF of D2 equipment.

It can be easily and efficiently addressed through input from the lift industry into the process. Our biggest problem as I see it at this point in time is a lack of will and belief that a small input can result in what we all want, a consistent, efficient, and safe D2 compliance process. Ed.

KONE CONSOLIDATES NZ MAINTENANCE:

KONE restructures under **Grace Wesolowski** to reflect a changing lift maintenance market. Up in the far north **Mike McIntyre** becomes Operations Manager with **Ben Kirsten** Customer Services Manager to work with team leaders **David Perry** & **Barry Martin-Buss** and **Marcel Hoencamp** and **Peter Mullen** in Customer support. **Natalee Scripps** is Service Administrator.

In Wellington, the appointment of **Russell Appleton** to Customer Services Manager complimented by **Gavin Pollard** to focus back on his strength as Operations Manager, and **Mark Geerlings** to look after Modernisations all administered by **Teanna Joyce** should provide a formidable team.

Alan Wilby takes over Christchurch and Queenstown as their Elevator Business Manager with **Rohan Kelly** and **Mike Boyd** to cover service and installation.

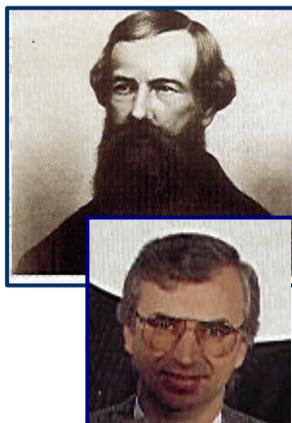
In the deep south of Dunedin, **Alex Denniston** becomes the Customer Service Manager with **Trevor Field** and a possible new technician to enhance the department.

BUILDING CERTIFIER IN RECEIVERSHIP:

Nationwide Building Certifiers Group Ltd are the latest Building Certifier announcing they are going into receivership under the 1991 Building Act change. The receivers - David Hercus and Mark Stevens, accountants of Wellington - have advised that Nationwide has ceased carrying out building inspections and that their 1500 or so current files are being wound up or transferred to local territorial authorities, but no reasons why were given.

**DEREK BRYSON
WHO HAVE WE LOST?**

The first sight the NZ lift industry had of Derek Bryson was when Otis employed him in June 1967 during the memorable week of the Wahine storm, having served an electrical apprenticeship with Shannon Electrical.

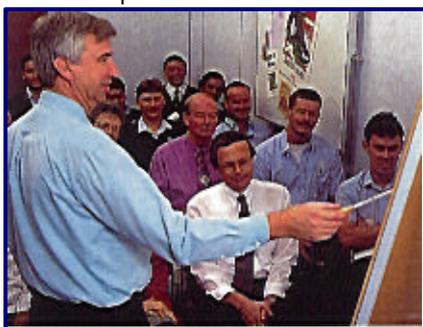


FROM ELISHA OTIS TO DEREK BRYSON

Two years on installation as a sparky saw Derek widen his horizon with an 18-month stint in the UK and Europe on his OE, before returning to Otis Wellington. With lifts seemingly already in his blood, Derek worked alongside some of the industries best adjusters in that era, when the adjusters' skill reflected in the quality of the lifts final operation. Being part of this elite group, Derek was able to attend various adjuster-training seminars around New Zealand and Australia learning commissioning and fault finding skills in much lesser demand in the technology of today.

During his time in the field, Derek was involved in adjusting the majority of the elevator installation in the Wellington region. A wide range of hydraulic, geared and gearless traction units, as well as Escalators saw Derek in such buildings as the Beehive, where challenging relay logic circuitry was required to be designed to meet stringent on-site specification requirements.

With the introduction of Computer Logic and electronic control systems, one again Derek conducted various training seminars



around New Zealand branch offices on the installation and commissioning of these products.

During 1983 he was promoted to a management position in Wellington, responsible for field operations in the lower North Island. It was during this period that installation activity in Wellington was at its highest, which included the tallest and largest lift installation at that time in the BNZ Centre.

2 years later Derek was promoted to the position of Field



Operations Manager for Otis NZ, which meant a move for him and his family to the Otis Head office in Auckland. It was here that he represented Otis on various industry committees such as the NZLEA (NZ Lift and Escalator Association), Standards NZ and Standards Australia where he provided input into Standards such as NZS 4332, AS 1735 as well as the NZ Safety Code of Practice.

Up until the present time, Derek chaired the Certification Board for Inspection Personnel (CBIP) lift committee, a peer review certification in NZ, that has enabled lift industry and past MOT inspection personnel to be recognised to carry out inspection of lift equipment in NZ.

For the past 5 years Derek has held the position of Area Manager, Northern Region NZ for Otis and sat as a member of Otis Australasia's Executive Team.

After nearly 36 years in the lift industry, Derek has elected to retire to work on projects with members of his family which will bring new challenges to his life, which as surely demonstrated he will head into with all the gusto shown in his life's challenges todate.

He acknowledges that the lift industry will always remain in his blood, and intends keeping in touch with its people and technology over the coming years.

I'm sure that like myself, all who have come in contact with Derek recognise the Gentleman within, and will feel privileged to have known him, even though he may have seen things through 'Otis vision'.

The industry still needs you Derek no matter how small the input. . . . Seasons Greetings and all the best. Ed.



THE BUILDING CODE REVIEW:

The 4th and 5th of November brought an opportunity to gain a perception as to the direction the NZ Government was heading with its review of the Building Code now that administration of the Building Act has been taken over by the newly formed one stop shop Department of Building and Housing (DBH).

The Workshop was hosted by one wing of the Building Research Association of NZ (BRANZ), and held at the awe inspiring Wellington landmark venue, the WestPac Stadium, known to mere mortals as .

"THE CAKE TIN".

The 2004 Act required that a review of the Building Code be undertaken over a 3-year period, aimed to clarify the expectations and aspirations New Zealanders have in their building in this century.



The workshop consisted of two days, the first to focus on; *for want of a better term*, **Societal Expectations**, and was attended by some 120 people representing consumer groups, community groups, special interest groups, tertiary institutions, health and safety organisations, insurance interest groups, environmental interest groups, TA's, and the wider building industry.

The focus of this first group was on those with interest in the building industry rather than a working knowledge of the processes.

The second day looked specifically at the **Building Code User** to identify ways in which to improve the way the code is written and presented to make it easier to use. This workshop consisted of over 140 people who regularly use the code.



The format of the workshop was an open forum where specific subjects were proposed and where participants grouped around the subject of most interest. A time period around 20-30 minutes was given for issues to be debated,

and key points were recorded for all to ponder over.

Interestingly, some key points in the summary's of the topics that I attended didn't seem to have been discussed in the groups.

Maybe I was sidetracked at the time by the magnificent panorama of the empty stadium viewed from high in the glazed area of the level 4 Deloitte lounge.



Our convenor of proceedings most aptly presiding over a gregarious but cogitative assembly, delicately controlled the proceeding through a keen wit, a bag of one liners, and what seemed like a firm grasp on the proverbial's.



It was a great coming together of ideas and a chance to test your own experiences against those of your peers, but it all ran so smooth my natural cynicism left me feeling I was used, there to give credibility to a process already formulated. This can only be tested against the aims of the review once implemented, but from past experience as with quality control systems, a lot of money is spent by organisations with volumes of paper processes produced, but unless those at the work-face who physically build the buildings are part of the process, the performances are not attained.



An example of this reflected in the group representing building sub-contractors where out of 140 attendees, four representatives were present, three representing the lift industry of which two were consultants. These few represent all the people who physically build the buildings. I understand demand for a second workshop is being organised for Auckland, which means you need to register asap. Contact carolyn Pepper on 0800 242 243 or email her at:- pepper@bia.govt.nz. For a copy of the document produced email:- anne@apconsulting.co.nz Or go to www.builders.govt.nz for the latest code details.

ELEVATION ROLLS OVER 10 YEARS:

I first met Ish Buckingham at a Singapore Lift Industry Expo back in March 1998 and immediately it felt like he was a life long friend. He had the lift industry in his blood like Bob Corporale of Elevator World, but I could feel the passion and understanding of his occupation that gives him the ability to get beneath the industry in which he worked, ideal to edit the **British Lift Industry magazine ELEVATION**.

And true to form, Ish has served his subscribers in the UK and wider lift industry well for the past 10 years with a pictorially well presented, sometimes challenging, but always interesting quarterly publication. Keep up the great work Ish, Suzanne Smith with Design and Production, and Tony Sigley in Advertising Sales, you deserve the accolades. Ed. See: www.elevation.co.uk



ASSESSING ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS:

The BIA; *surprise, surprise*, has just put out a Consultation Guide Document on **Assessing Alternative Solutions**. The aim of the document is to assist BCA's (Building Consent Authorities - nee TA's), to assess building consent applications containing Alternative Solutions. Now if you are involved in Alternative Solutions this is the document for you. Understandably; although the term **Producer Statement** seems a dirty word under the 2004 Act, it has been retained in this guidance document because of its widespread use.

There are two main categories:-

- A background on the building consent process and Alternative Solutions.
- Flow charts and checklist for checking Alternative Solutions.

I cannot promise you will be listened to, but you cannot moan later if you didn't **told you so** today.

Once again it feels like a rubber stamp done deal, but comments are welcome until my birthday . . . sorry 31st Jan 2005. *ps. I won't be 60 like John Davies of Schindler was on the 2nd Dec.*

Copies are downloadable in PDF format from: www.bia.govt.nz

OTIS PULLS THE PLUG:

As promised back in the May issue, LEC finally decided to join the NZLEA (NZ Lift & Escalator Association) following their reported setting up of a closed user group on their site to expand communication within the association.



After 5 months of no response, I followed my application up to find there was no record of it. One presumes NZPost.

Subsequent to this, I understand Otis has decreed, that because of Anti-trust laws it has instructed all its subsidiaries to no longer participate in Industry Associations other than in a technical capacity. The word in the NZ industry is that without the biggest provider of lunch, an association has no purpose.

And so the question must be asked, is this the end of the NZLEA as we know it ?

A meeting is due this month, maybe a final meeting, but whatever evolves we should glean some detail on the effect of the Otis decision on the present association.

If you remember back to 1995, I tested the industry with the idea of a broader lift industry association to encourage membership from all and any whom were associated with the lift industry in some way. The aim was to provide an association based on people within the industry rather than just the company, a concept similar to the Australian Association, LESA.

The inauguration meetings held in the main centers were well attended with some 80 or so in total, but in the end with few forth-coming to organise the association, and myself only prepared to participate locally, the idea was put to rest.

The concept of an E-association was tabled and rejected by the NZLEA, but the seed was sown and the Secretary Garth Wylie put in the effort with the formation of the web site www.lifts.org.nz, which promoted the concept of a closed user group as a vehicle for wider membership and communication.

So maybe we, who are interested in the industry as an industry and not just a representative of a company, should consider whether or not now is the time for the structuring of an association that reflects the whole of the NZ industry! Could it be a restructured NZLEA or the resurrected NZLIA?