General Requirements for Accredited Elevator/Escalator Certification Organizations,
ASME A17.7.1/CSA B44.7.1

1 Scope

1.1 This document provides guidance for the use of ISO/IEC Guide 65 as applied to an Accredited Elevator/Escalator Certification Organization (AECO) accredited by ANSI, ASME or SCC operating an A17.7/B44.7 certification system. The requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65 apply in full except where modified by this document.

NOTE (1.1): The clause numbers used in this document correspond to the ISO/IEC Guide 65 clauses to be modified.

1.2 The A17.7/B44.7 certification system used by the AECO also includes a review of the supplier's technical documentation.

2 References

The following list of reference standards replaces all of the reference standards listed in ISO/IEC Guide 65:

ASME A17.7/CSA B44.7.
ISO 19011:2002, Guidelines for quality and/or environmental management systems auditing.
ISO/IEC 17020:1998, General criteria for the operation of various types of bodies performing inspection.
ISO/IEC 17011:2004 - Conformity Assessment – General requirements for accreditation bodies accrediting conformity assessment bodies
ISO/IEC 17021:2006 – Conformity assessment – Requirements for bodies providing audit and certification of management systems

NOTE 2: Some of the references in ISO/IEC Guide 65:1996 are superseded by the above references.
3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Standard, the relevant definitions given in ISO/IEC 17000 and ISO 9000 apply, together with the following definitions:

3.1 supplier: The party that is responsible for ensuring that products meet and, if applicable, continue to meet, the requirements on which the certification is based. With reference to ASME A17.7/CSA B44.7 the installer and/or manufacturer is the supplier.

3.2 AECO: An ANSI, ASME or SCC accredited, independent organization concerned with product safety evaluation, which awards certificates of conformance with ASME A17.7/CSA B44.7. Where the term “certification body” is used in ISO/IEC Guide 65 it shall be understood to mean “AECO.”

4 AECO

4.1.3 The criteria against which the products of a supplier are evaluated shall be those outlined in A17.7/B44.7.

4.3 Operations

The AECO shall evaluate conformance with A17.7/B44.7.

The AECO shall demonstrate to the accreditation body that all conformity assessment activities it conducts (testing, inspection, quality management system evaluation, surveillance etc.) are carried out in a manner consistent with the applicable requirements of the normative documents for these activities.

In conducting its certification operations, the AECO shall observe, as appropriate, the requirements for the suitability and competence of body(ies) or person(s) carrying out testing, inspection and certification/registration as specified in ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO/IEC 17021.

4.4 Subcontracting

4.4.1 An AECO shall be permitted to subcontract work (e.g. testing or inspection or quality management system evaluation) to another body, provided that the arrangement with the subcontracted body requires compliance with all the relevant requirements of ISO/IEC Guide 65 and where applicable, ISO/IEC 17025, ISO/IEC 17020 and ISO/IEC 17021.

If this compliance is based partly or in full on the accreditation of the subcontractor, the scope of accreditation shall cover the activities to be carried out under the certification scheme and the AECO shall have records available to show that it has checked the status of the accreditation of the subcontractor.

4.4.2 If the subcontracted bodies employed are not accredited according to the relevant standard for the specific activities required by the certification schemes, the AECO shall demonstrate the competence of the subcontracted body by other means, such as documented evaluation performed by qualified personnel according to appropriate procedures.
4.4.3 Evaluation of the subcontractor’s work and the decision on certification shall be made only by the AECO itself, and not by any other body.

4.9 Records

4.9.3 Each AECO shall maintain up to date records, available in a publicly accessible medium, containing the relevant information concerning:

a) Certificates of Conformance issued; and
b) Certificates of Conformance withdrawn.

5 Certification Body Personnel

5.2 Qualification Criteria

5.2.1.1 Criteria for AECO personnel shall collectively include:

(a) registered or licensed Professional Engineer;
(b) experience in the use or application of Risk Assessment Methodology(ies);
(c) experience in the use or application of Elevator Safety Codes – ASME A17 and CSA B44 documents; e.g. member of code committee, elevator inspector, elevator designer, QEI-certified, etc.;
(d) experience in the use or application of codes with elevator-related requirements, i.e. building codes, electrical codes, life safety, etc., e.g. member of code committee, elevator inspector, elevator designer, QEI-certified, etc.;
(e) familiarity with industry terminology;
(f) ability to read and understand architectural, installation and layout drawings and circuit diagrams;
(g) experience in the use or application of electrical, electronic, mechanical and other principles related to elevator products being evaluated; and
(h) experience in the use or application of the functions and operations of elevator products being evaluated.

8 Application for Certification

8.2.2 The applicant, as a minimum, shall provide the following information:

a) for certification of components, sub-systems and functions the information required by 17.7/B44.7 Mandatory Appendix I, clauses I-3.2 and I-3.3;
b) for certification of elevator systems, the information required by A17.7/B44.7 Mandatory Appendix I, clauses I-4.2 and I-4.3.

10 Evaluation

The AECO shall evaluate the products of the applicant against the requirements of A17.7/B44.7. The AECO shall examine the technical documentation to verify that the elevator system, sub-system, component or functions meet the relevant GESRs; and

a) for a sub-system, component or function, perform or have performed appropriate checks and tests necessary to determine whether the solutions adopted by the manufacturer of the sub-system,
component or function meet the requirements of A17.7/B44.7, allowing the sub-system, component or function to carry out its function when correctly fitted on an elevator as specified in the manufacturer’s CCD, or;
b) for an elevator system, perform or have performed the appropriate checks and tests necessary to determine that the elevator system meets the requirements of A17.7/B44.7.

12 Decision on Certification

12.3 The AECO shall provide to each supplier offering certified products, formal certification documents in the form of a Certificate of Conformance to A17.7/B44.7, signed by an officer who has been assigned such responsibility. The certificate and related documents shall include the following:

a) the name and address of the supplier whose products are the subject of certification;
b) the scope of the certification, including, as appropriate,
   1) the products certified, which may be identified by type or range of products,
   2) the relevant parts of ASME A17.7/CSA B44.7 to which each product or product type is certified,
   3) the certification system.
c) effective date of the certificate and the term of the certification if applicable.