

07 May 2020

Circular to Shareholders, Clerks & Staff – Social Distancing – Lifts

Safe Work Australia are calling for the 1.5m social distancing rule to be applied to lifts in all commercial buildings. CCL understand that organisations such as the Property Council are engaging with Safe Work Australia and the Government to explore solutions in relation to this matter that are both safe and practical. CCL appreciates that as Members and Staff plan the return to Chambers over the coming weeks, the practical application of this rule would hinder access and potentially create congestion and queuing that may present other risks as we move into winter.

Further information relating to this matter can be found on the Safe Work Australia website:

<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/covid-19-information-workplaces/industry-information/office/physical-distancing>

Ensure workers maintain 1.5 metres distance when travelling in lifts. Depending on the size of the lift, this may result in only one person travelling in a lift at any one time. Implement measures at waiting areas for lifts, such as floor markings, or queuing systems to ensure workers maintain 1.5 metres distance.

In relation to this matter, CCL has sought further advice from its WHS Advisors who have advised the following:

NSW Health advocate social distancing, maintaining a 1.5 metre gap but they also recognise that there are situations where this is not possible and they state:

Attempt to keep a distance of 1.5 metres between yourself and other people where possible.

The amount of time that each person is in the lift is negligible, presenting little risk of cross-contamination. A rigorous cleaning program of lifts should continue to be in place.

CCL will continue to monitor this situation and provide updates to Members in relation to this matter, as a guide, CCL will also install markers on the floor in the lifts to display the required distance that you should be standing apart from other people using the same lift.

I also take this opportunity to remind Members & Clerks that it is possible to use the rear fire stairs in Wentworth & Selborne Chambers to gain access to Floors provided you have a valid access card or tag. CCL encourages Members and Clerks to use the fire stairs wherever possible. Given the current requirements for social distancing within the lifts, it would be particularly helpful to use the fire stairs when possible to alleviate congestion in the lifts and potential social distancing breaches.

If you have any questions in relation to this matter please contact CCL's maintenance department at maint@ccl.com.au

Kind regards,
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