

Incident Summary #II-664312-2018 (#6328) (FINAL)

SUPPORTING INFORMATION	Incident Date	3/15/2018	
	Location	Victoria	
	Regulated industry sector	Elevating devices - Elevator	
	Impact	Qty injuries	1
		Injury description	Head laceration and broken finger.
		Injury rating	Moderate
	Damage	Damage description	No damage to regulated equipment.
		Damage rating	None
Incident rating	Moderate		
Incident overview	It was reported to Technical Safety BC that an elevator shut down on a drive fault. A mechanic on site reset the fault and the elevator appeared to level to the floor at a landing. Mechanic went down to check on the elevator and found a person had tripped on the way in to the elevator and hit their head on the handrail on the back wall of the elevator car. A second passenger tried to assist and fell on top of the first passenger which reportedly broke the first passenger's finger.		
INVESTIGATION CONCLUSIONS	Site, system and components	An elevator car is called to a landing. The elevator drive allows the elevator system to start an elevator run. The run is defined as movement of an elevator car from one landing to another landing. The car's platform is required to stop within certain distance of the hoist way landing when the doors are fully open. Older elevators constructed to codes earlier than the B44 2000, had to level to within 2" of the landing, but modern elevators must level within .5".	
	Failure scenario(s)	Elevator was not level but was operating within design and code parameters. The elevator leveled as it should at a floor based on the design and code parameters, however the levelling may not have been flush which resulted in the passengers both tripping into the car.	
	Facts and evidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was reported to Technical Safety BC by the mechanic's supervisor that there was an incident involving several passengers • Drive fault was reset by Mechanic, after reset, the elevator appeared to level and operate within design parameters • A witness said the elevator was about 1" high when they entered the elevator but when they looked back it was level, suggesting perhaps this is when the drive was reset, allowing the elevator to re-level. • Older unit constructed based on an older code requiring the elevator to be within 2" of level • Arriving on site, the mechanic did not secure the elevator, prior to starting the troubleshooting 	

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Causes and contributing factors

The age and construction of elevators is based on B44 Elevator Codes at time of construction. This elevator meets its code design, even though it may be out +/- 2", which can present a tripping hazard. Due to these design limitations, elevators may level outside currently accepted clearances. It is likely this elevator was not level at the time of the event.

A contributing factor for the individual tripping and falling is that they were not aware or paying attention to the car levelling (sill to sill) at the floor landing.