

EPSA - National Information

Country: Norway

EU member states must comply with the general rules and regulations adopted by the European Union related to platform lifts and stairlifts. There might, however, be additional requirements that are specific for the individual member country. It is important that manufacturers and distributors, as well as planners and builders, know and comply with these specific requirements of the country in question.

Main regulations:

Machinery Directive 2006/42/EC

The Machinery Directive, with Articles and Annexes, defines the essential safety and health requirements for machinery, which includes platform lifts and stairlifts. A Notified Body must be asked to issue an EU Certificate of Conformity for platform lifts with travel height of over 3 metres.

Safety regulations for the design and construction of stairlifts and platform lifts

The Machinery Directive is transposed into the national law of each EU member state. In Norway, these are: "Instructions about Machinery no. 820" (Forskrifter om maskiner nr. 820).

Product Standards EN 81-40 and EN 81-41

EN 81-41 is an EU standard for platform lifts which will be harmonized by all EU member states in the course of 2009. EN 81-41 is already a harmonized EU standard for stairlifts. If a machine is made in accordance with the Standard then it meets all the essential safety and health requirements. National rules and safety authorities may, however, demand additional or more stringent requirements than those defined by the harmonized standards.

Building Regulations

The Building Regulations with guidelines is the main regulation in force in Norway. The Regulations specify the application process for permission to install platform lifts, as well as requirements for safe installation, responsibility, operation, safety, maintenance and repair. The owner of the installation is responsible for its safe operation.

Regulations for Approval (GOF)

The Regulations safeguard that the individual company meets with the required qualifications in compliance with the Building Regulations. These qualifications are related to a company's organization, quality systems, routines, and level of skills required of its personnel.

Procedure for Application (SAK)

The instructions define application procedures prior to the installation of lifting platforms. Deadlines for applications and local administrative procedures are specified.

Guidelines to Procedure for Application gives further details

Technical Regulations (TEK)

The Regulations relate to the safety of persons using, operating or maintaining a platform lift. Detailed administrative regulations are specified in relation to the installation, permission for operation, inspection, and safety. A separate chapter regarding technical regulations also specifies fundamental safety requirements.

Guidelines to Technical Regulations further specify the provisions in TEK.