



Making It New Again

by Ricia Sturgeon-Hendrick

“Elevator equipment across America is aging and will need attention to remain safe and reliable.”

— Åsa Christina Magnusson

When we announced the focus topic for this month, **Maintenance and Modernization**, we were hardly prepared for such enthusiasm — 10 articles, with three on maintenance and the rest on mod jobs. In some areas like NYC, code changes are driving many modernizations, and maintenance, too, is getting a push from the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 adoption of a mandatory maintenance control plan (MCP). Our cover features NYC’s Hudson Yards, which, according to Ralph Newman in **What’s New in Modernization**, is forcing other existing landlords to upgrade the appearance and function of their properties and elevators to compete. Also, in this month on modernization:

- ◆ **21st Century Upgrade** by Julio César Santos: Thirty-year-old elevators in the Central Bank of Brazil were modernized by Villarta Equipamentos for greater security and service.
- ◆ **A Total Team Effort** by Åsa Christina Magnusson: The author details a giant 160-elevator mod job taken on by Champion Elevator and Vantage Elevator Solutions — the largest ever for both companies.
- ◆ **Elevator Modernization: When Is It Time?** by Laurie Axium Kohl: This article explains the factors to evaluate before modernization — equipment lifecycle and age, reliability and current usage.
- ◆ **Energy and Operational Saving Strategies** by Alfonso Molina-Spínola: The author speaks to the advantages of variable-voltage changes on escalators and moving walks.
- ◆ **Gearless DC Machines Should Be Replaced** by Risto Kontturi and Dr. Eero Keskinen: In this Elevcon paper, the authors make a case for

modernization, as DC motor technology has not been used in new elevator installations in the past 20-25 years.

- ◆ **Modernization for the Metro** by Aurore Tran Van. The Paris subway goes from two huge elevators to four in the same space, with much of the work done at night. And, on the maintenance side:
- ◆ **It Pays to Be Consistent** by Charlie Slater: Facility managers are urged to focus on long-term prevention, rather than short-term repairs.
- ◆ **Method for Managing Maintenance** by John W. Koshak: In this paper from the 2018 International Elevator & Escalator Symposium, the author details an electronic system for compliance with ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Section 8.6, which prescribes a maintenance control program.
- ◆ Finally, our historian Dr. Lee Gray, in **Modernization and Maintenance: 1956**, describes the level of detail in a G.A.L. Electro-Mechanical Service packet prepared for Elevator Maintenance Co. with intricate hand drawings and required maintenance. The National Elevator Industry Inc. (NEII) has rebranded and restructured to be a more focused and proactive voice for the industry. In the article **Future Ready**, Kaija Wilkinson talks with Executive Director Karen Penafiel in the 105-year-old association that represents 80% of the hours worked in the elevator industry. On a similar note, many of the companies that form NEII are mentioned in **Global Top Ten Elevator Companies** by *Elevator Observation* translated by our China Correspondent Peng Jie. In this group, the positions have changed very little in the past couple years. Take a look to see “who’s on top.” 🌐