Subject: Category 1 Testing of Emergency Power (8.6.4.19.7)
Distribution: TSSA website

This advisory is to inform that the Category 1 testing per 8.6.4.19.7 requires the elevator to be tested under emergency power conditions and not via simulation with the elevator operating under normal power.

Testing of the elevator while operating under actual emergency power (not a simulation using normal power), may follow the A17.2 test procedure or where provided, may follow the maintaining contractors testing procedure as detailed in the maintenance control program.

Supporting Material:

A17.1/B44-2013 requires:

8.6.4 Maintenance and Testing of Electric Elevators
8.6.4.19.7 Standby or Emergency Power Operation.
Operation of elevators equipped with standby or emergency power shall be tested to determine conformance with the applicable requirements (Item 1.17.2.1). Tests shall be performed with no load in the car.

The testing procedure in A17.2, item 1.17.2.1 requires the following:

1.17.2.1 Electric Elevators: Category 1 Test (for A17.1-2000/B44-00 and Later Editions)
Have the elevator(s) taken out of normal service and placed at the floor where the ELEVATOR EMERGENCY POWER selector switch is located, if provided. Otherwise, have the elevator(s) taken out of normal service and placed at the bottom terminal. Have the system transferred, by the responsible party, to standby or emergency power. (…)

Operate each elevator selected to be operated on standby or emergency power, one at a time, with no load in the car. Make several trips and stops checking for proper operation. Verify that the elevator is running at normal speed especially in the up direction (speed must not attain the governor electrical overspeed trip setting or 125% of rated speed in both directions, whichever is the lesser). (…) Have the system transferred, by the responsible party, back to normal power and verify that the elevator(s) tested operate properly in normal service.

During the emergency power test, the elevator mechanic should verify the additional requirements of A17.2 item 1.17.2.1, in order to complete the sign off of the 8.6.4.19.7 Category 1 test.