

TECHNICAL REGULATIONS DIVISION

Authorised Conformity Assessment Body (ACAB) Course

Lift Inspection – Course Outline

For prospective applicants

1. Background and Regulatory Basis

Lifts in Malta are regulated under the Product Safety Act (Cap. 427 of the Laws of Malta), which the Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority (MCCAA) implements through its Technical Regulations Division (TRD).

Every lift installed in Malta must be inspected throughout its operational life by an Authorised Conformity Assessment Body (ACAB). ACABs are third-party bodies designated to carry out:

- Preventive Inspections – carried out on an annual basis; and
- Thorough Examinations – carried out at prescribed intervals over the lifetime of the lift,

in each case reporting any dangerous or potentially dangerous defects to the Responsible Person and, where appropriate, to the relevant enforcing authority, so that remedial action can be taken.

The requirements for ACABs are set out in the Inspection of Lifts Regulations (S.L. 427.63) and the designation of ACABs is carried out in accordance with the Method for Designating Conformity Assessment Bodies Regulations (S.L. 427.45) and applicable MCCAA guidelines.

As part of these regulatory requirements, prospective inspectors are required to successfully complete a dedicated training course and pass a final examination before they may proceed towards designation. The MCCAA ACAB Course described in this outline has been developed to meet this requirement, subject to completion of all necessary prerequisites required under S.L. 427.45 before formal designation can be considered.

2. Purpose of the Course

The course is designed to equip prospective lift inspectors with the legal, technical and practical knowledge required to carry out Preventive Inspections and Thorough Examinations of lifts competently, safely and in accordance with the applicable Maltese and harmonised European standards.

3. Who Should Apply

The course is intended for engineers and other technically qualified professionals with a background in lift technology, building services, or related conformity assessment or regulatory work, who wish to be trained and assessed as prospective lift inspectors.

4. Intended Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the course, participants will be able to:

- explain the Maltese legal and regulatory framework governing the inspection of lifts, and the role and responsibilities of an ACAB;
- identify the different types of lifts and describe how they operate;
- interpret and apply the relevant harmonised standards applicable for lifts;
- apply risk-assessment principles and safety precautions when carrying out inspections;
- carry out a Preventive Inspection of traction and hydraulic lifts using a structured methodology;
- carry out a Thorough Examination of an existing lift, including hazard identification and determination of the required scope and timeframes;
- evaluate maintenance records and identify and follow up non-conformities;
- correctly complete and submit inspection and examination reports, and apply the criteria for stopping a lift where safety is compromised.

5. Course Structure

The course covers, at minimum, the six thematic areas set out below. These are delivered as a series of taught modules combining theory, technical interpretation of standards, and practical, case-based tutorials.

Theme	Focus area	Indicative content
A	Legal and Regulatory Framework	National legislation (Product Safety Act, Cap. 427; Inspection of Lifts Regulations, S.L. 427.63); classification of lift types; definitions and regulatory purpose of Preventive Inspections and Thorough Examinations; introduction to the EN 81 series, EN 13015 and Directive 2014/33/EU.
B	Safety and Risk Management	Safety precautions to be observed during inspections; principles of risk assessment; case-based tutorials.
C	Technical Standards	Detailed interpretation of the EN 81 series (design, installation, accessibility, vandal resistance, firefighter lifts, fire behaviour, evacuation of persons with disabilities, seismic conditions) and related standards for lifts in existing buildings.
D	Maintenance and Inspection Documentation	Standard maintenance requirements under EN 13015; evaluation of maintenance records; identification and follow-up of non-conformities; correct completion of inspection documentation.
E	Preventive Inspections and Thorough Examinations	Structured methodology for Preventive Inspections of traction and hydraulic lifts (machine room, car, landing, well); Thorough Examination methodology for existing lifts under EN 81-80 (SNEL), including hazard identification, risk-based determination of examination scope, and applicable testing procedures.

Theme	Focus area	Indicative content
F	Reporting, Enforcement and Practical Application	Completion and submission of inspection and examination reports; criteria for stopping a lift where safety is compromised; discussion of practical case studies.

The above themes are delivered across a series of modules; the precise sequencing, number and length of individual sessions may vary between course runs.

6. Duration, Format and Delivery

- Total duration: between 28 and 32 contact hours.
- Sessions: delivered across a maximum of 10 sessions, each inclusive of tutorials and related activities.
- Language: English.
- Delivery mode: fully online delivery.

7. Assessment and Certification

Participants are required to attend the course and successfully pass a final examination.

Results are communicated to participants by the MCCA, and successful candidates receive confirmation of having passed the course.

Passing the course does not, on its own, constitute designation as an ACAB. Candidates must subsequently complete all necessary prerequisites required under S.L. 427.45 before formal designation can be considered.

8. Further Information

Prospective applicants who require further information, or who wish to enquire about the recognition of equivalent training already undertaken, may contact the Technical Regulations Division of the MCCA.

Technical Regulations Division · Malta Competition and Consumer Affairs Authority · Mizzi House, National Road, Blata l-Bajda, Malta