



# Ride & Building Comfort in Vertical Transportation

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Dedicated to  
*smooth* People Flow™

# Agenda

1. Why is ride and building comfort important ?
2. What is elevator ride and building comfort?
3. Measurement parameters and tools
4. What is escalator ride and building comfort?



# Why is ride and building comfort important for Vertical Transportation?

- **Reputation**

- Any customer's feedback are the supplier's fault , whether they are right or not
- Affects future relations with customers
- Statistical studies have shown correlation between ride comfort and customer satisfaction

- **Performance**

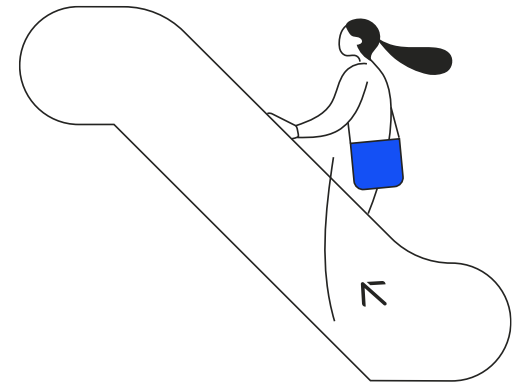
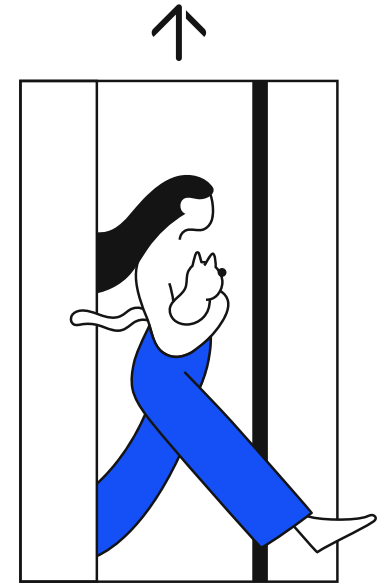
- Competitiveness & Differentiation

- **Cost**

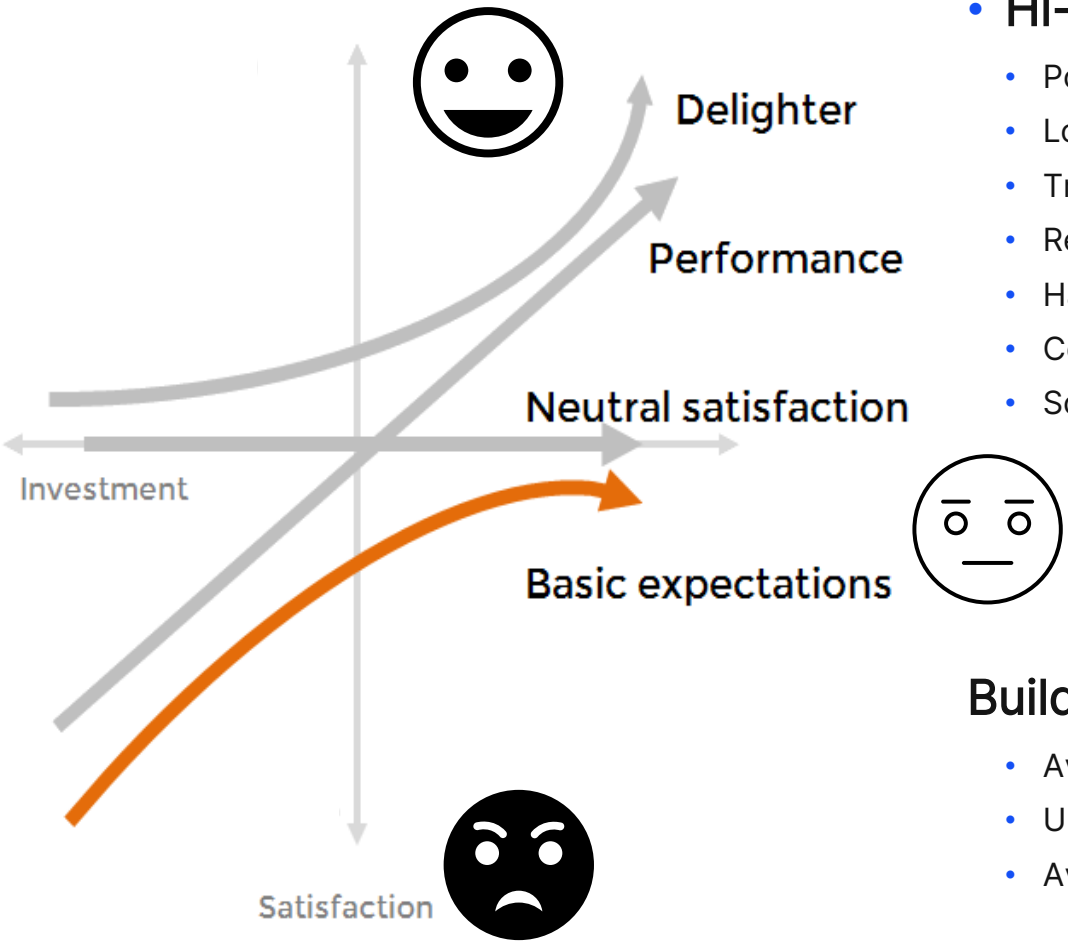
- Call-outs; cost of poor quality; feedbacks ; unnecessary material and installation cost

- **Building Regulations**

- Global/local legal and code compliance
  - Cost of non-compliance
  - User will feedback a Ride Comfort non-compliance faster than a safety or energy non-compliance, because it is more noticeable

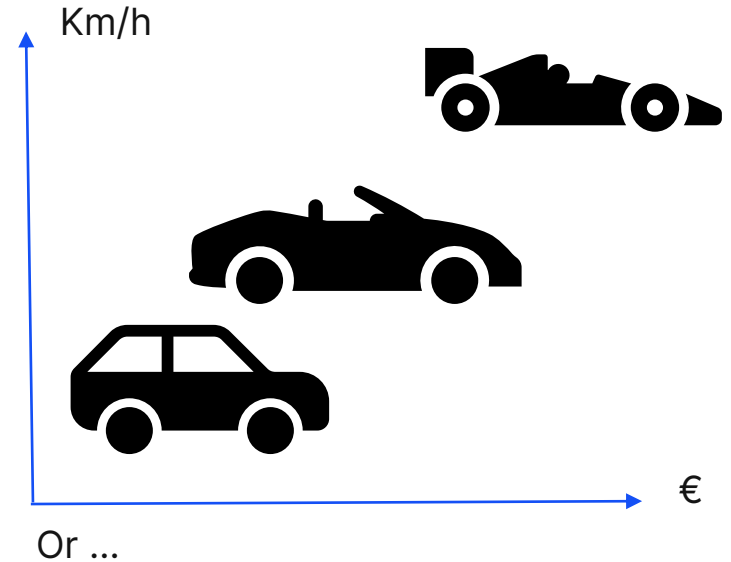


# Are we selling products or experiences?



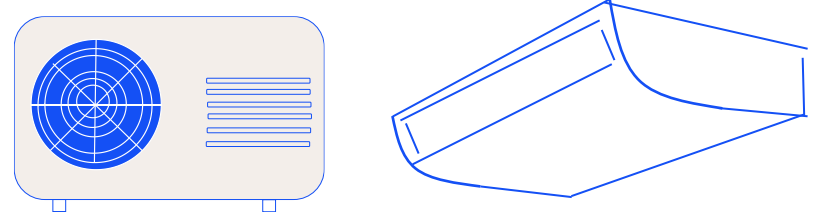
## • Hi-Tech Innovative consumer product? (As Advertised by suppliers.....)

- Power
- Looks
- Traffic Capacity (speed, size, logic)
- Reliability
- Handling (vertical dynamics)
- Comfort
- Sound Quality



## Building equipment that nobody notices unless they irritate?

- Availability – traffic handling; reliability
- Unobtrusive
- Availability

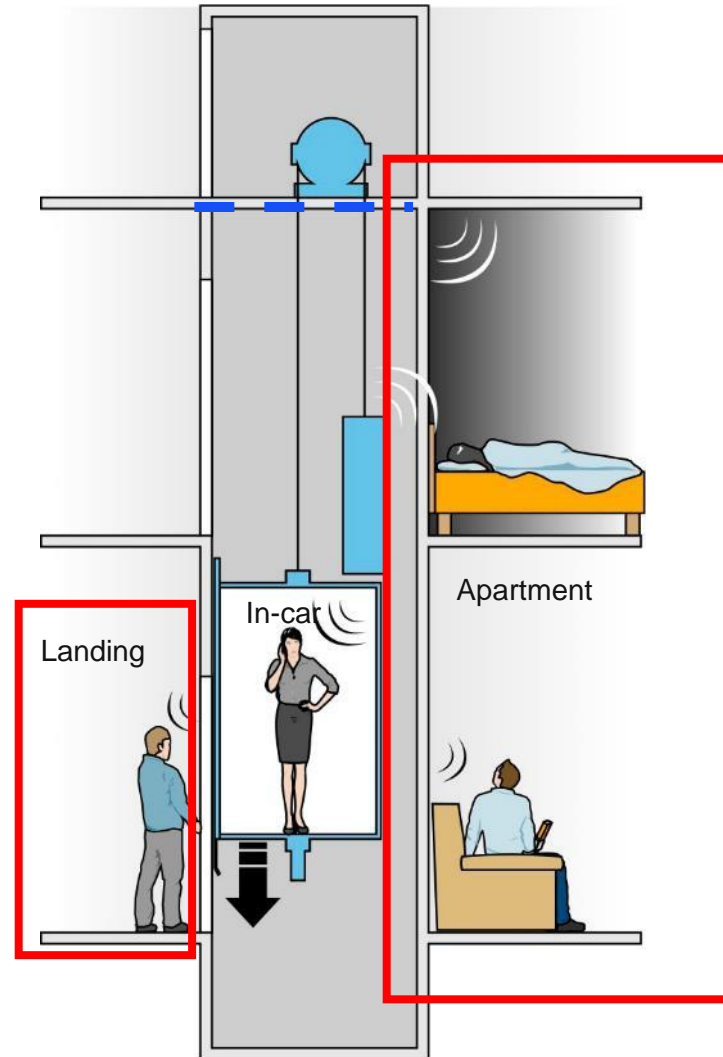


Kano model

# What is Elevator Ride Comfort & Building Comfort?

## Background

- What is end-user and resident comfort?
  - Affects 2/5 senses; sound, feel (touch)
- Important Customer locations:
  - In-car
  - Landing
  - Apartment
- Building Interfaces
  - Elevator car landing doors
  - Elevator shaft





# How is Ride Comfort Measured?

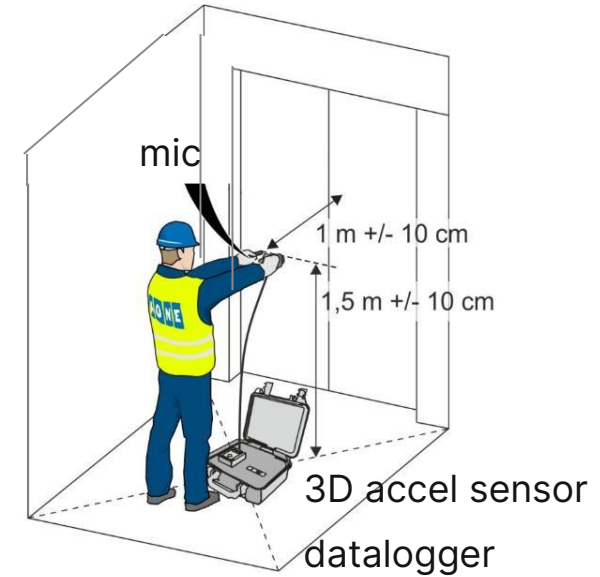
- Why measure RC?
  - 90% of RC feeling can be measured
  - We want to verify our own quality
  - Our customer and competitors sometimes measure
- We can consider a lot of metrics to communicate RC....
  - Noise
  - Lateral quaking
  - Vertical dynamics
  - Levelling
  - Door RC
  - Noise in apartment



<https://www.henning-gmbh.de/>



[www.pmtvib.com](http://www.pmtvib.com)



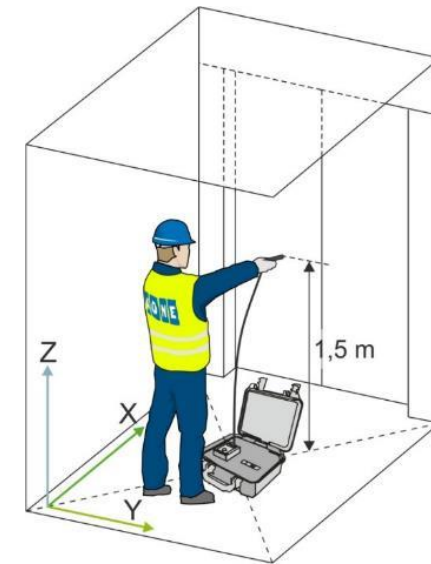
Example Vertical Transportation  
Commercial RC tools



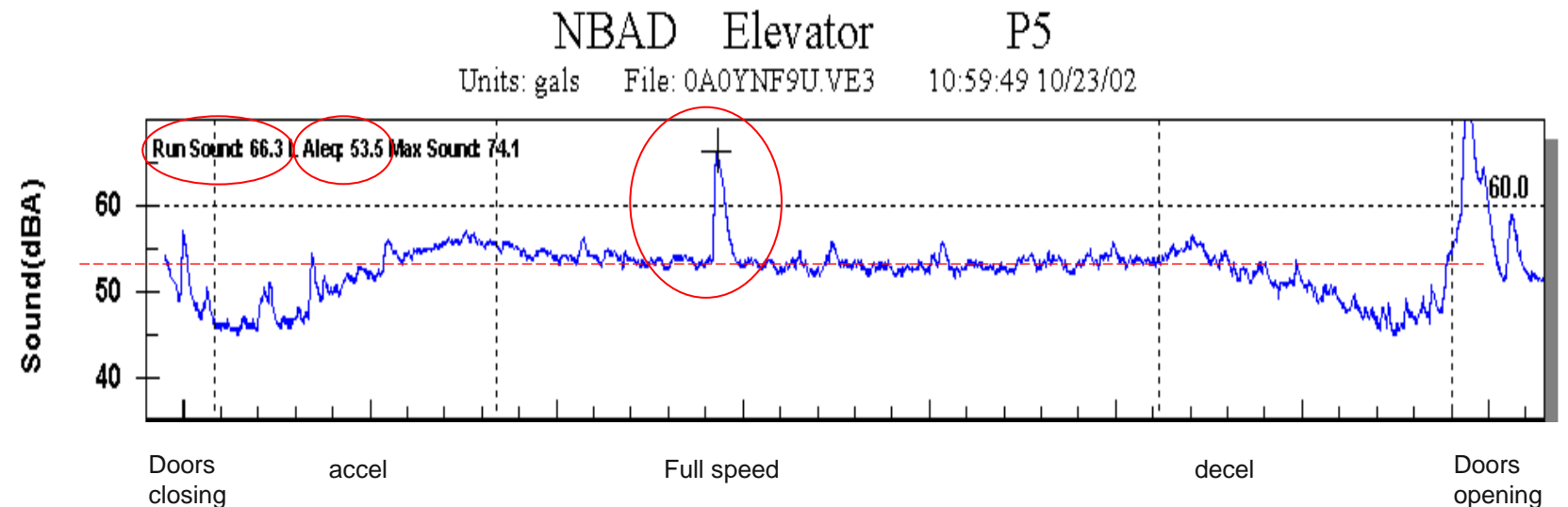
# Elevator System Level RC in-car RC



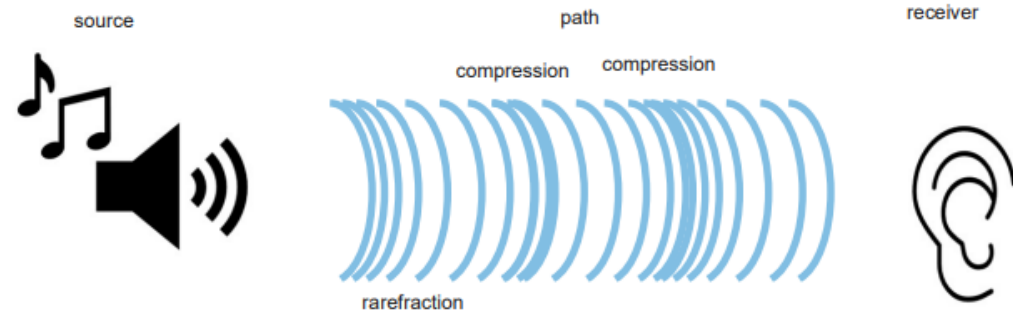
- Sound
  - max sound (RMS, A-weighted Fast)
  - power average sound (Laeq)
  - Door operation sound (not in ISO)
  - Neglectable sound (construction time)



mic towards door

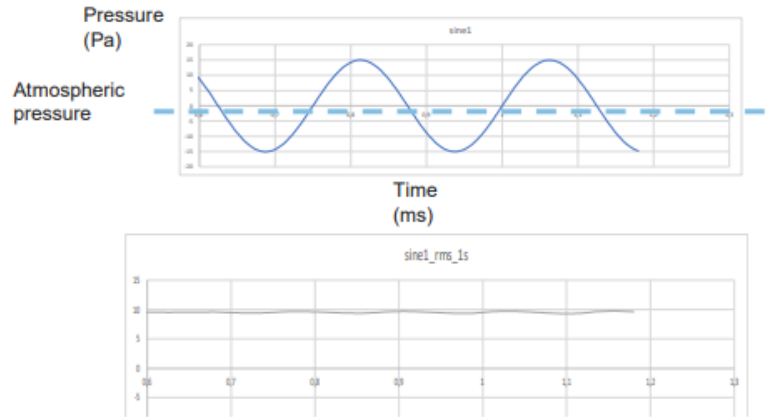


# Sound - introduction



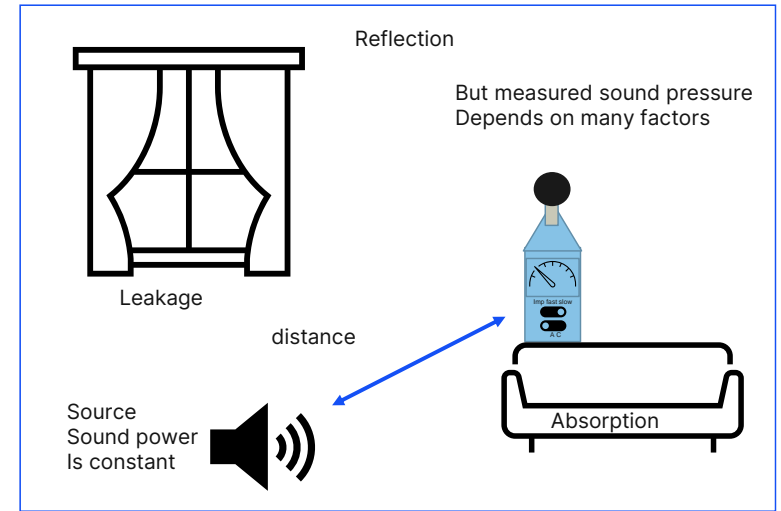
incredibly complex  
Electromechanical  
process between  
Ear and brain

Sound pressure variation  
Is measured using a sound  
Level meter

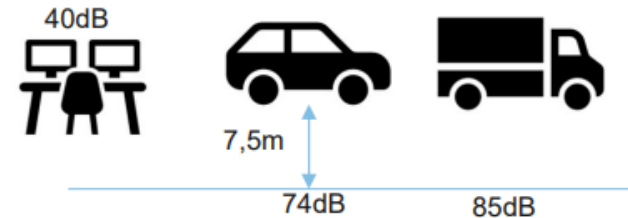


- The pressure variations are
- Frequency Weighted (A, C, Z flat)
  - Time averaged (Fast, Slow, imp)
  - Root Mean Squared
  - Converted to log scale ( $L_p=20\log P/P_0$ )
  - Where  $P_0=20e-6Pa$

The range of the human ear is so huge that noise levels  
Are better represented using LOG scales  
A Bel and decibel are variations of a LOG scale  
( $L_p=20\log P/P_0$ )



Environment can  
affect  
Levels by 10dBA



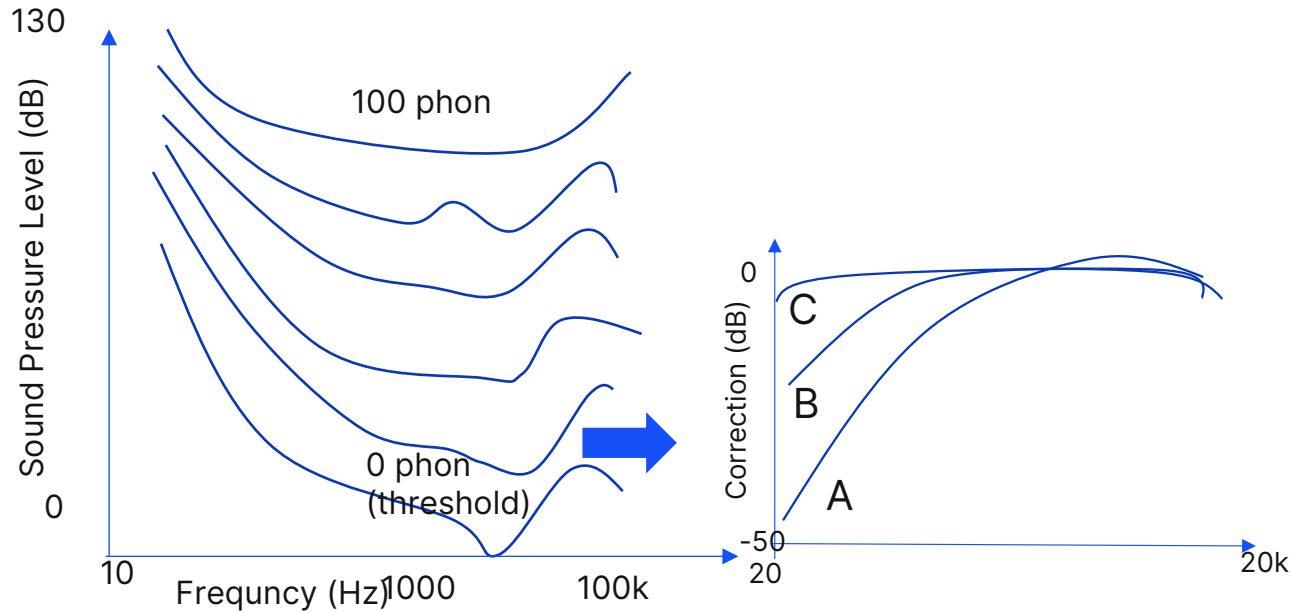
<https://www.nats.aero/environment/noise-and-emissions/measuring-noise/>



# Common Sound Level Meter settings

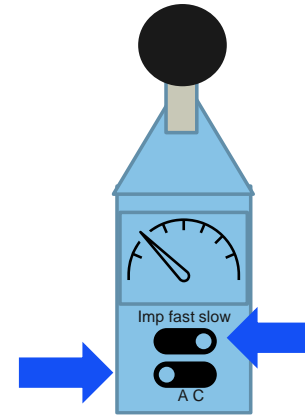
“Fast” v “Slow”

## A-weighting

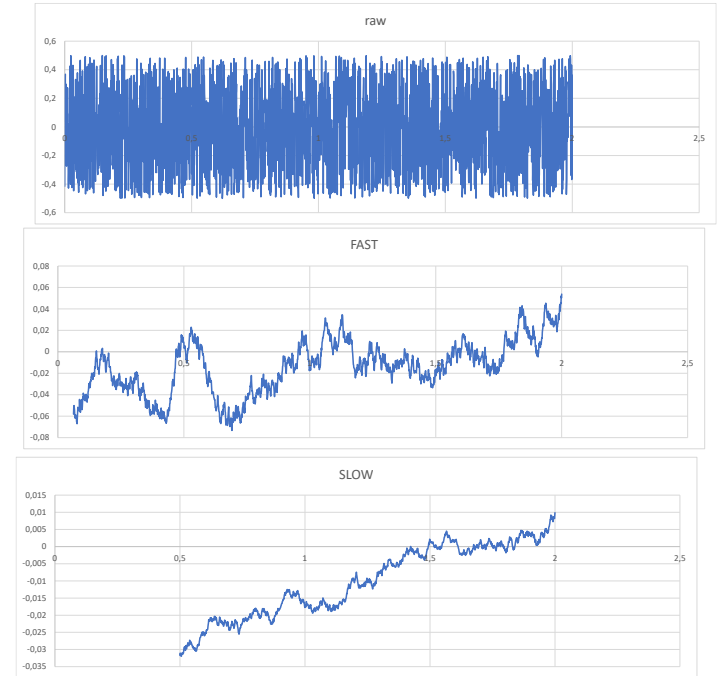


Our sensitivity to sounds depends on both the amplitude and *frequency* of a sound. Here is a graph of the range of human hearing.

A-weighting is designed To compensate raw Sound pressures according To human sensitivity



Slow (1s) weighting originally designed to slow the needle in analogue Sound level meters



Vertical transportation Industry usually Specifies “fast” (0,125s) Weighting

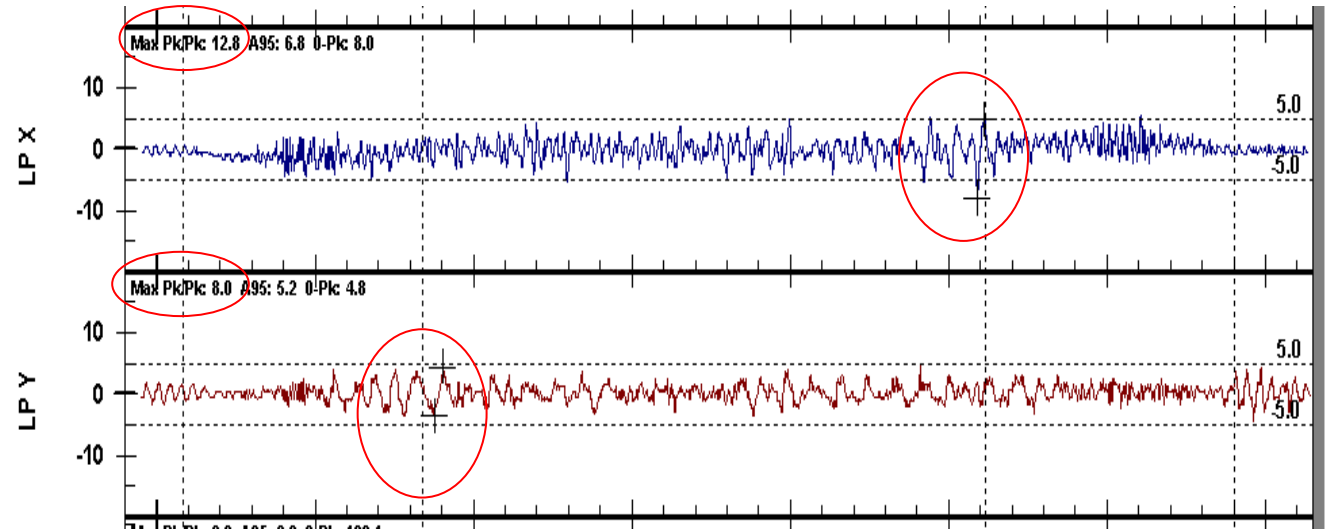
Usually slow makes the dBA look about 3dBA lower

# Elevator System Level RC in-car

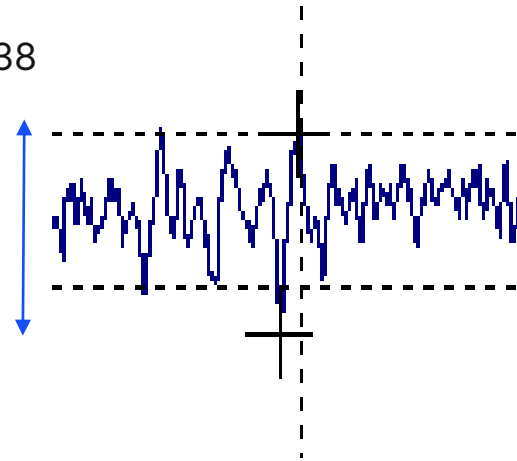
- Lateral (Horizontal) Quaking
- Generally human body is much less sensitive to low freq (>12Hz)



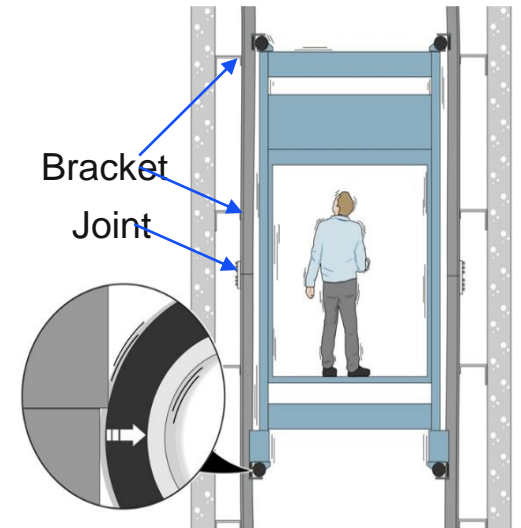
Yes, it is possible to balance a coin  
On the handrail if lateral quaking is very low



Elevator industry and ISO18738 usually uses Peak-to-Peak



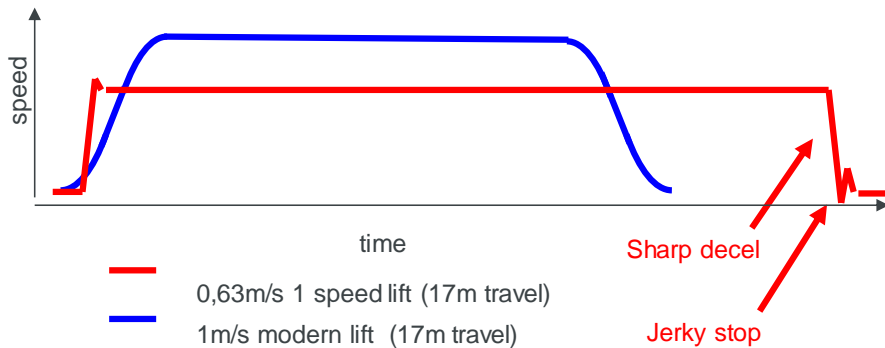
Escalator and Building Acoustics Industry use something else (see later)



# Elevator System Level RC in-car RC

## Vertical Dynamics

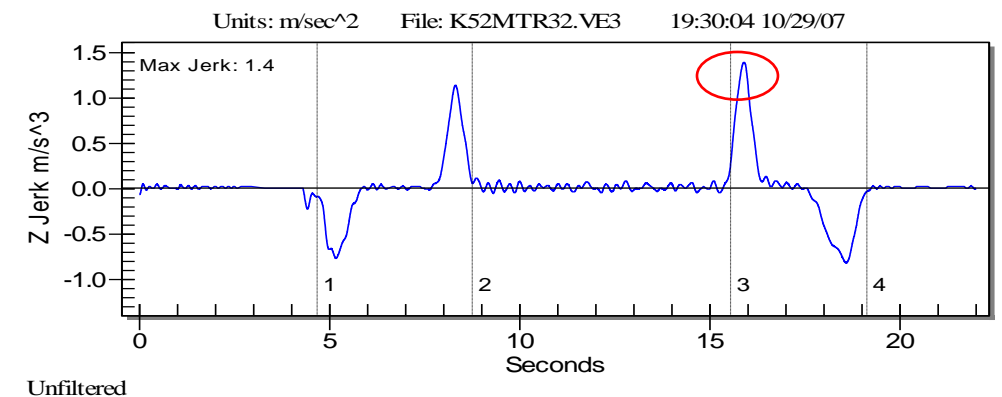
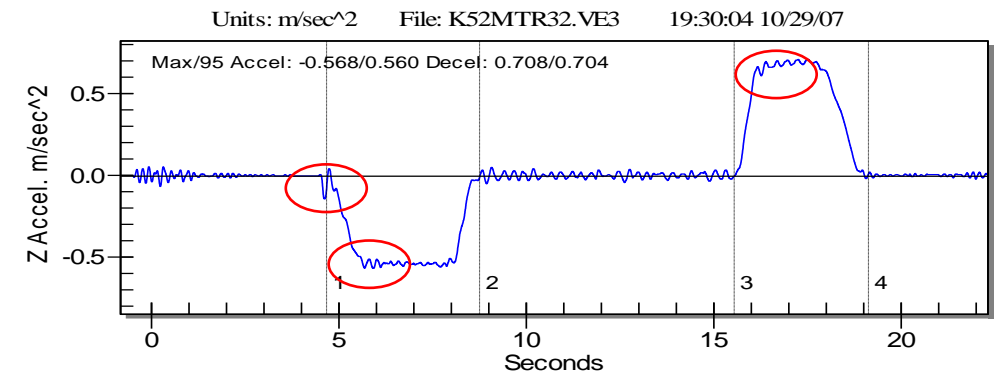
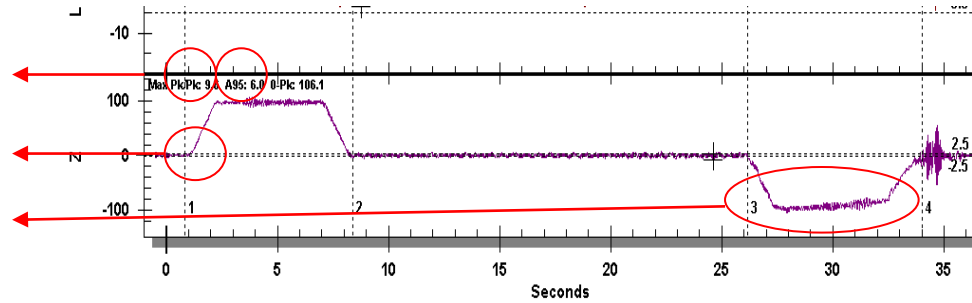
- max levels
- full speed average
- drive curve
- start kick
- accel
- jerk



Smoother travel = better feeling of safety for sensitive & aged users

Body most sensitive up to 80Hz in vertical direction  
 < 10Hz ... sensation of comfort  
 10- 80Hz ... sensation of quality

Z Pk-Pk	9.6
Z A95	6.0
SK	0
DC	16



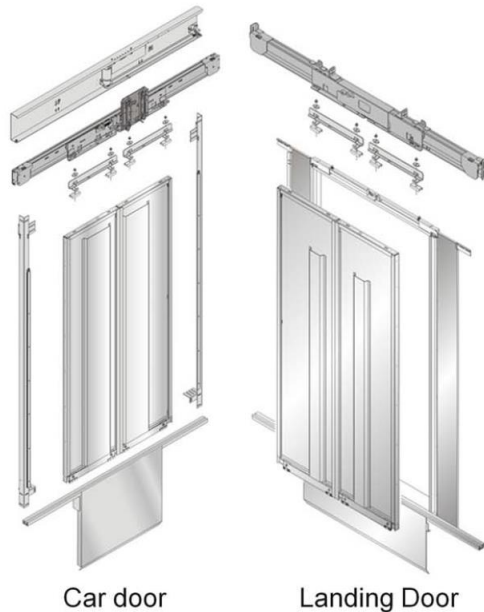
# ISO 18738 Measurement of Ride Quality: Part 1 Lifts (elevators).



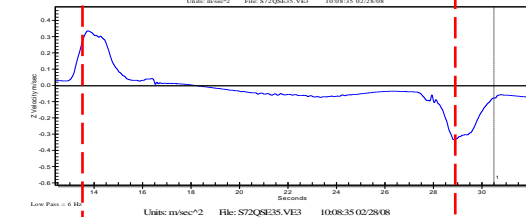
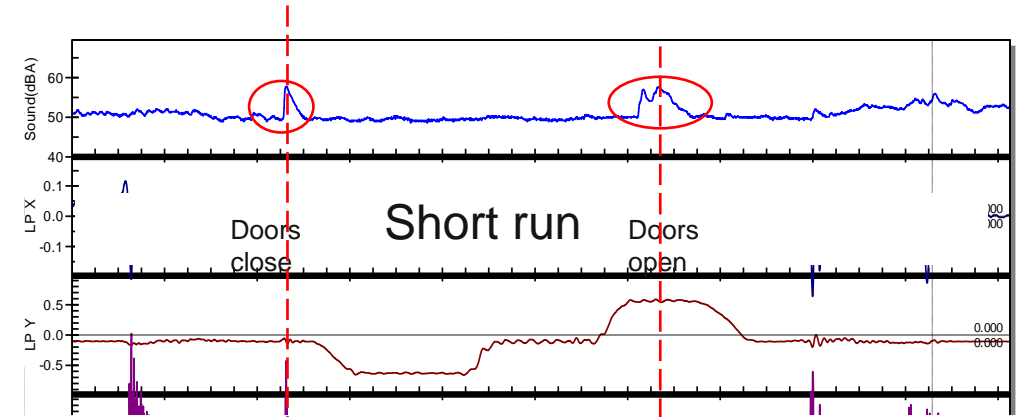
- Managed By ISO TC/178 / WG9
- Now replaced by ISO8100 - 34
- Standardized measuring of ride comfort in elevators.
- Refers to ISO8041/ISO 2631 Whole Body Vibration filters to weight according to human feeling
- No reference to allowable limits, or levels describing good, medium or poor ride comfort
- Ride Comfort Levels are separately agreed between customer and supplier

# Doors are like mini-elevators

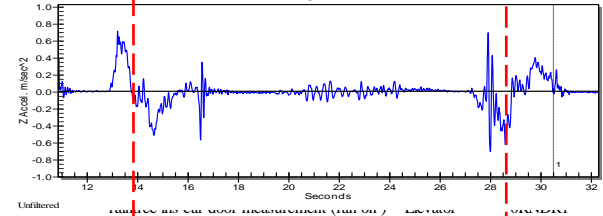
- On of the most important elevator components
- (the "business card of the elevator")
- Door movements must be safe, smooth, and well timed
- Doors have own drives and motors, and dynamics
- Door RC v. door-to-door performance time



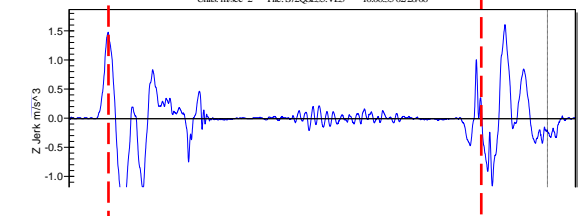
Max, average noise



Door speed



Door accel



Door jerk



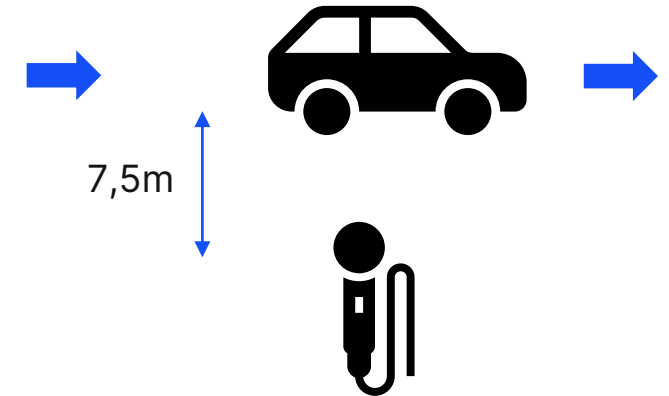
# Why building noise is becoming more important

## Megatrends (focus on EU, but applies globally)

- Reduction in **external** environmental noise
  - Automotive by-pass noise reduction, quieter (electric) drivetrain, quieter tyres
  - Quieter aero-engines
  - Road surfaces and noise blocks



"The A350 is on average up to 6 dB quieter on departure than the A330 and 777"  
<https://publicapps.caa.co.uk/docs/33/CAP%201733%20Final.pdf>



Automotive pass-by noise targets:

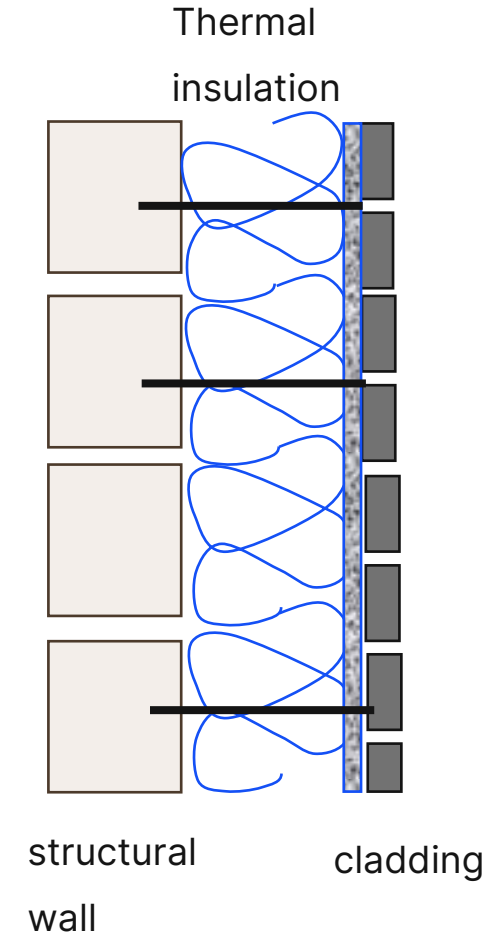
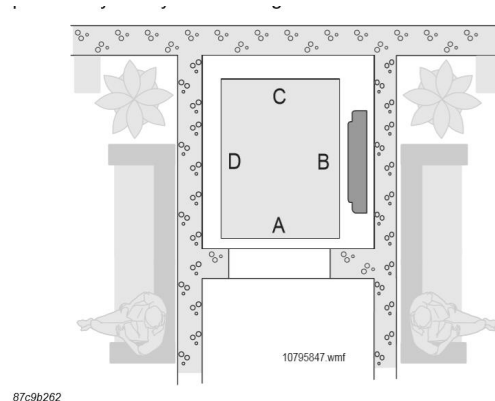
1978 – 82dBA  
2016 – 74dBA  
2026 – 68dBA

**Automotive regulations (bypass test)**  
**Ref: REGULATION (EU) No 540/2014 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

# Why building noise is becoming more important

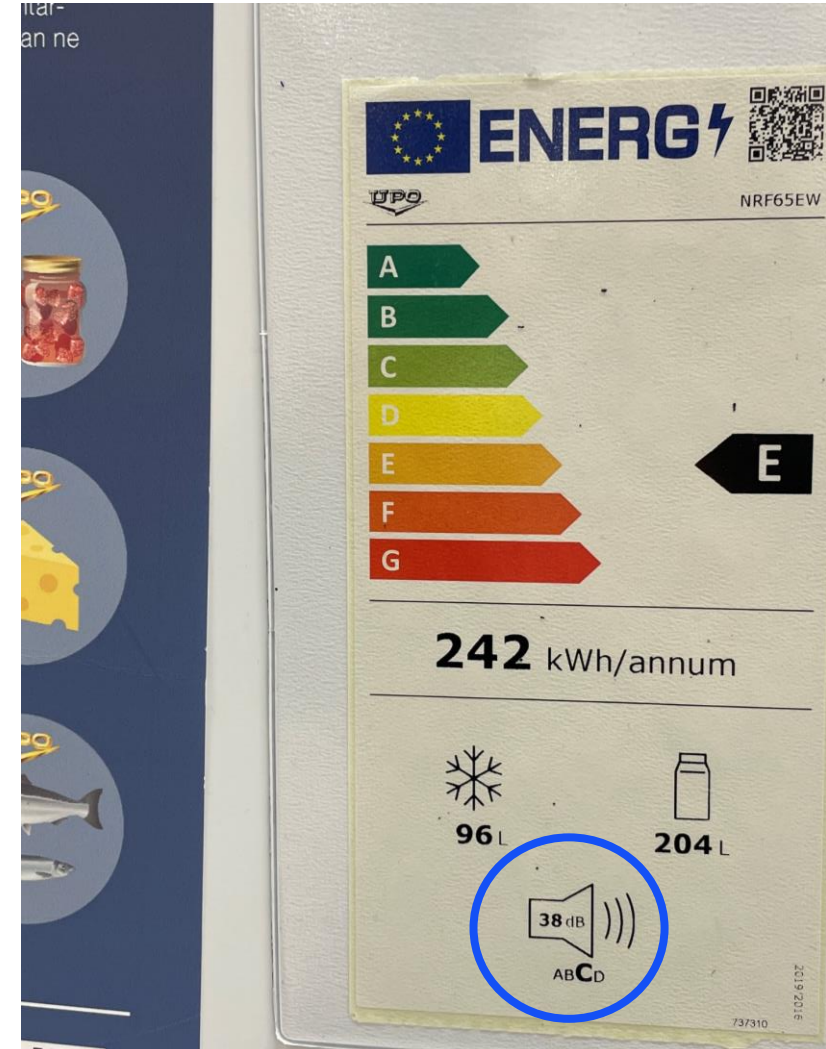
## Megatrends

- Efficient Building Material and Layouts
- Increased building **energy** efficiency
  - More insulated façades
  - Increased glazing – single, double, triple
- Increased **space** efficiency
  - Architects want to locate living areas close to lift shaft
- Acoustics in **sustainability** trends ...
  - E.g. BREAM international system :
  - Hea05 - Extra credits for enhanced acoustic performance



# Why building noise is becoming more important

- Increasingly internal noise dominated by internal equipment....
  - HVAC
  - Lifts
  - Bathrooms, washing machines, etc.
- ....And neighbours...
  - Footfall, pets, doors closing. Music etc.
- residents become more sensitive to internal equipment noise
- more time at home
- More general sleeping issues
- **Urbanization** ... more residents, more risks



# Noise & Building Regulations

- Most countries specify max allowable noise in apartment rooms in local building regulations which are:
  - Variable
  - Fragmented
  - Ambiguous
  - Elevator supplier must comply, but builder's responsibility (shaft wall) usually not clear
  - ISO 19488 offers a harmonized classification, but not adopted by many countries

country	norm	Max night time noise (dBA (LaFmax))
EU	EN81-20	Agreement to be clear between Seller and buyer
Finland	C1	33
Sweden	BBR	31
Germany	DIN4109-1	30
Germany	DIN4109-5	27
China	GB50118	37/30
UK	BS8233	25 *
Netherlands	Bouwbesluit section 3,2	30 **

\* only for elevator related noise not actively followed yet, but quoted by most state planning offices

\*\*Weighing TBC; Slow time constant

# Residential Noise & Sustainability

- Elevator acoustics will be included in all green building schemes sooner or later
  - BREEAM international (HEA05)
  - Leed v4 (so far building only)

Function	Space type	Installations sound level ( $L_{i,A} / L_{i,A,max} *$ )
Office	closed (single) office	$\leq 35$ dB
	Open plan office / call center	$\leq 40$ dB
Gathering	Meeting room	$\leq 35$ dB
	Sleeping area in daycare	$\leq 32$ dB
Education	Group space in classroom	$\leq 35$ dB
	Lecture hall	$\leq 30$ dB
	Music classroom	$\leq 30$ dB
	Lab room	$\leq 35$ dB
	Workshop	$\leq 40$ dB
	Auditorium / main (multi-function) hall in a school	$\leq 35$ dB or $\leq 30$ dB in case used as a theatre hall
	Quiet study space	$\leq 30$ dB
Hospitality	Living- / bedroom	$\leq 28$ dB
Sports	Sports hall	$\leq 40$ dB
Labs	Open workplace	$\leq 40$ dB
Care facilities	Sitting / sleeping area	$\leq 28$ dB
* In relation to the octave band with middle frequency 63 Hz to 8000 Hz.		

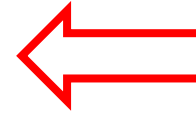
BREEAM NL is asking for tighter than Building Regs



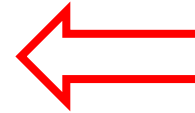
# How Building (acoustics) Regs work

German/Dutch example

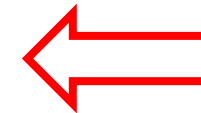
- **Building Reg (minimum legal)**
  - usually defines
    - Insulation quality of outer façades, internal walls etc.
    - Max allowable noise level in living, sleeping rooms (and other rooms)
    - Min requirements are legal requirements = mandatory
  - **Voluntary requirements**
    - Optional High End and sustainability requirements
  - **Acoustic reference referenced by the Building Regs**
    - How to make the measurements,
    - what setting on the Sound Level Meter,
    - compensation for background noise, reverb
  - **Elevator level requirements**
    - These are requirements/guidelines
    - for the elevator/builder to help fulfil Building regs and Building level guidelines



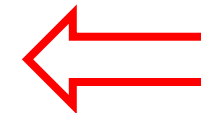
Bouwbesluit30dB  
DIN4109-1 (30dBA)  
DIN4109-5(27dBA)



NEN1070  
VDI4100



NEN5077  
ISO16032  
DIN10052



NPR5073 (withdrawn)  
VDI2566-1 (MRL)  
VDI2566-2 (MR)

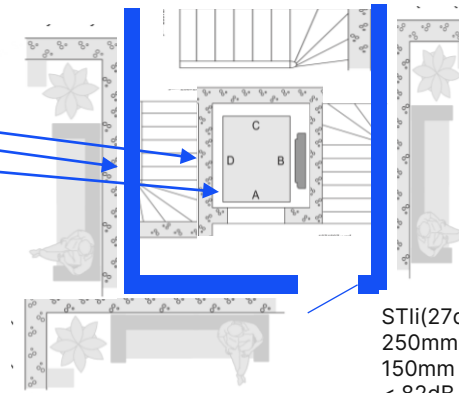
# DIN8989 – replacement for VDI2566



- This is a German Guideline
- Introduced august 2019
- Replaces VDI2566-2
- Officially shares responsibility between lift supplier and builder
  - Minimum shaft wall thicknesses
  - Maximum shaft wall vibration requirements
- Refers to 3 standards of insulation
  - STI (30dBA) = DIN4109-1 min building reg
  - Stii (27dBA) = DIN4109-5 increased requirement building reg
  - STIII (24dBA)
- Refers to 3 layout configurations
  - A – lift in stairwell
  - B – lift next to shaft
  - C – buffer room

A – lift in stairwell

STI(24dBA) needs:  
300mm shaft wall  
150mm stairwell wall  
< 79dB wall accel @ 250hz

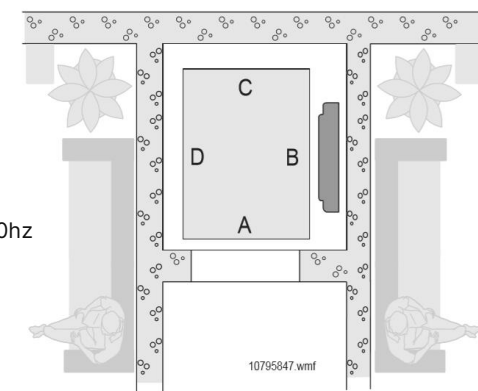


STI(30dBA) needs:  
200mm shaft wall  
150mm stairwell wall  
< 85dB wall accel @ 250hz

STIi(27dBA) needs:  
250mm shaft wall  
150mm stairwell wall  
< 82dB wall accel @ 250hz

B – lift adjacent to critical room  
- Most critical and common

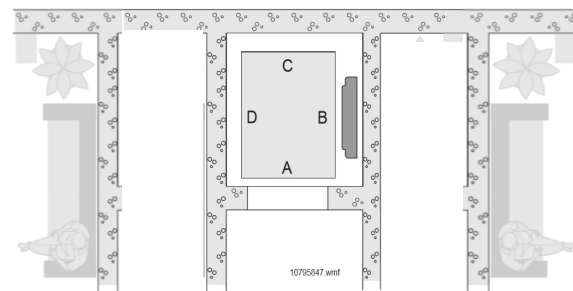
STIi(30dBA) needs:  
300mm shaft wall  
< 67dB wall accel @ 250hz



STI(30dBA) needs:  
250mm shaft wall  
< 70dB wall accel @ 250hz

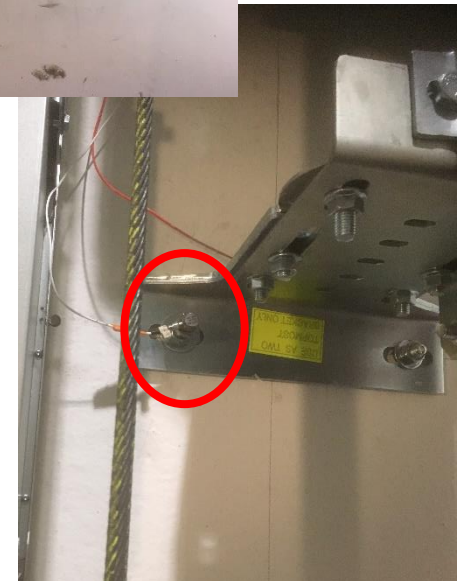
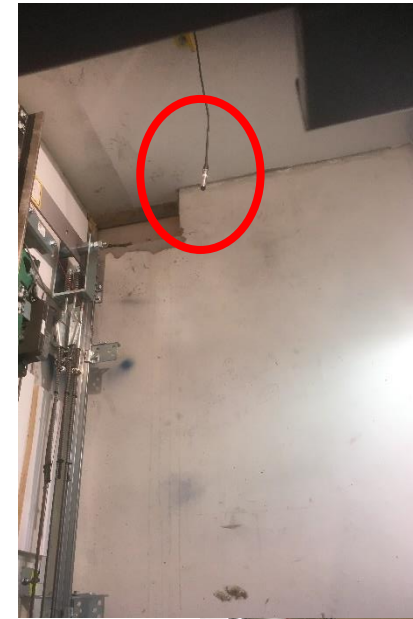
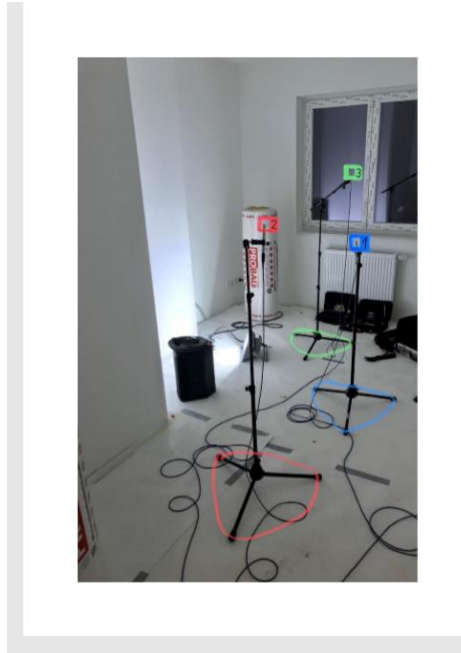
C – lift shaft separated from critical room by buffer space

STI(24dBA) needs:  
250mm shaft wall  
< 64dB wall accel @ 250hz



# Measurement process (in a nutshell)

- Elevator cycle usually defined:
  - one run stopping at every floor, then full run down
- Airborne Measurements
  - In shaft
  - In front of landing (every floor)
  - In apartment (with adjustment for furnishing, background noise, room size)
- Structure borne measurements
  - Accelerations on wall 10cm below motor



# What is Escalator Ride Comfort?



## Knock'n'Feel:

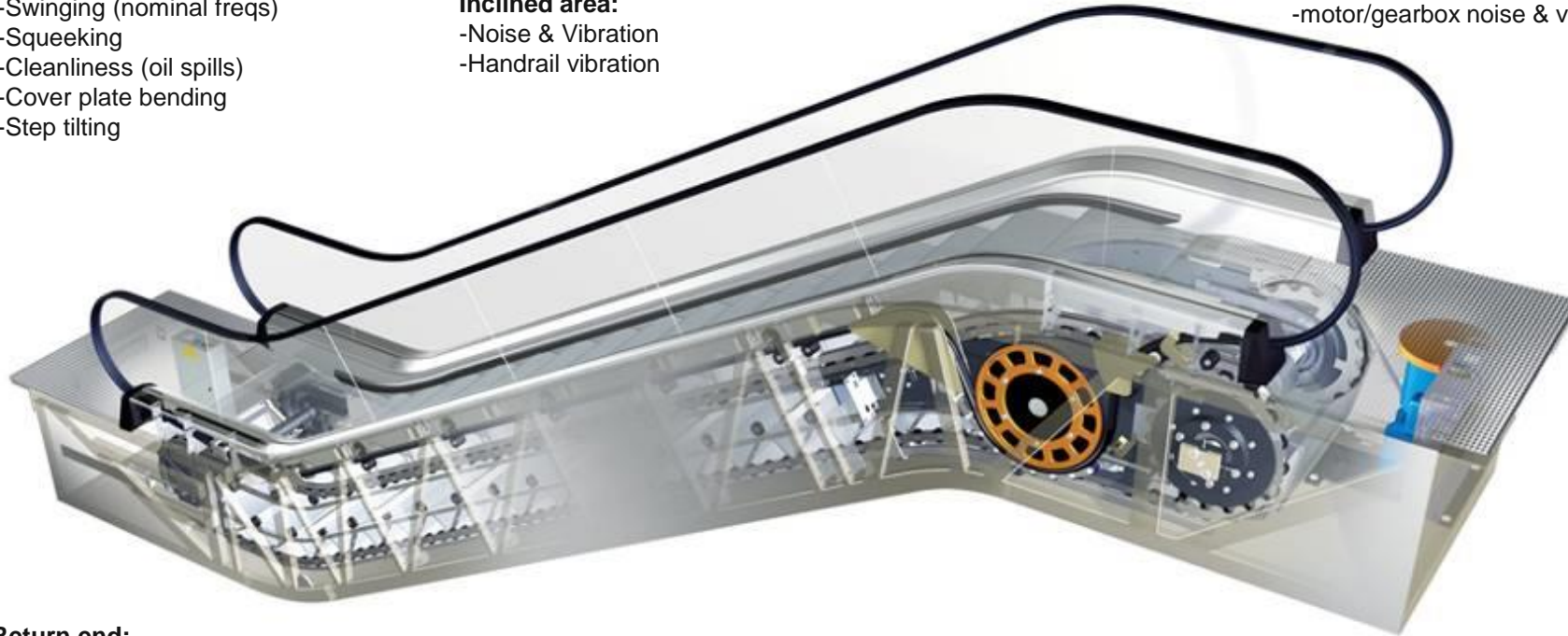
- Balustrade bending
- Rattling
- Swinging (nominal freqs)
- Squeeking
- Cleanliness (oil spills)
- Cover plate bending
- Step tilting

## Inclined area:

- Noise & Vibration
- Handrail vibration

## Top landing:

- Noise & Vibration
- Building interface vibration
- Pit noise
- motor/gearbox noise & vibrations



## Return end:

- Noise & Vibration
- Building interface vibration
- Pit noise

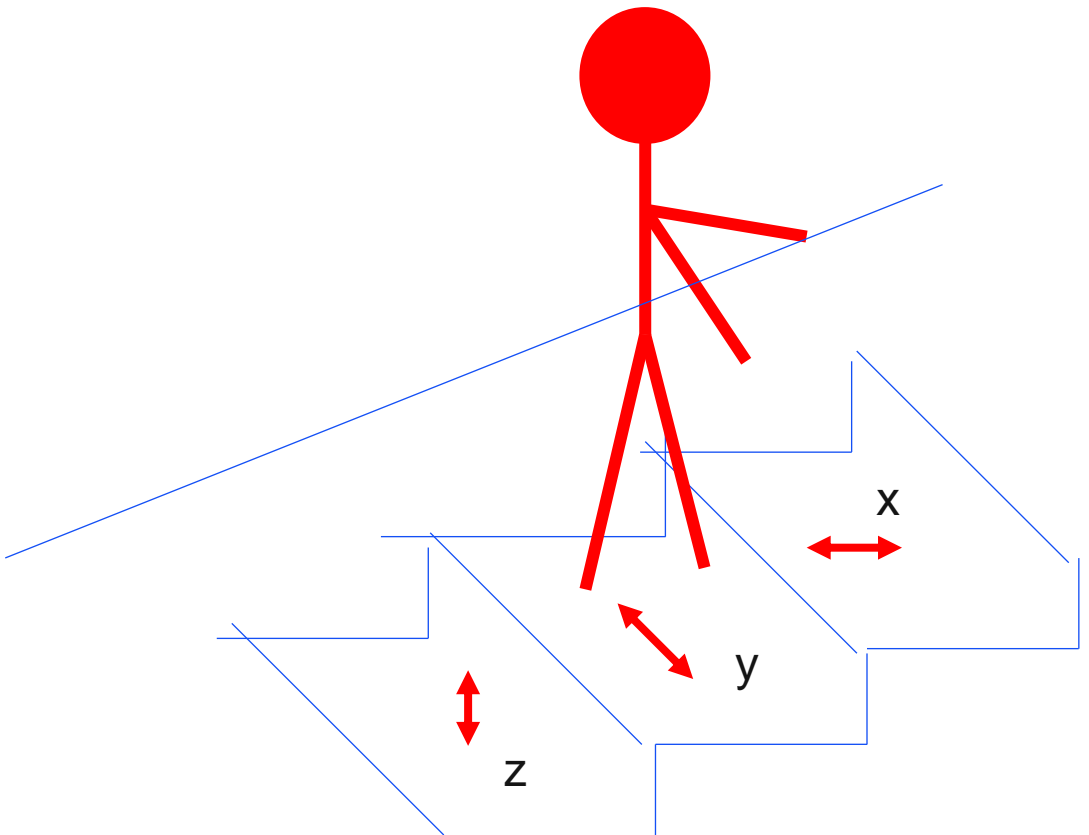
Escalator **Ride Comfort** is about making **people feel:**

- **safe**
- **comfortable**
- **Non irritated (including non-user residents)**

# 1. Step vibrations



Moderate- high frequency vibration -> poor quality image  
 High vibrations at low frequency -> feels unsafe



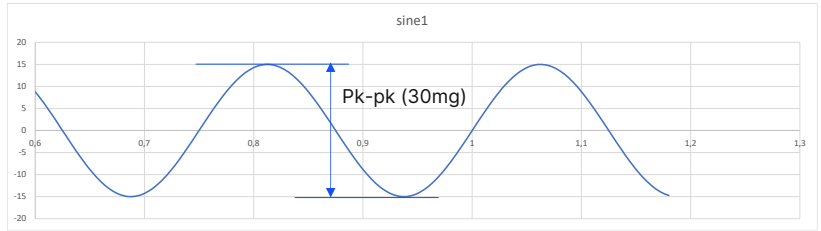
ISO standards use **Vector Sum**:

$$\text{Sqrt}(z^2 + y^2 + x^2)$$

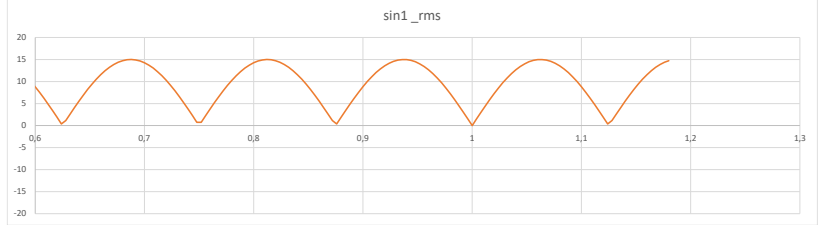
Avoid copy paste elevator specs to escalator specs

Typical ways of defining vibrations – simple sine wave

Raw trace 4Hz  
 Conventional  
**Elevator** method  
 (ISO18738-1)

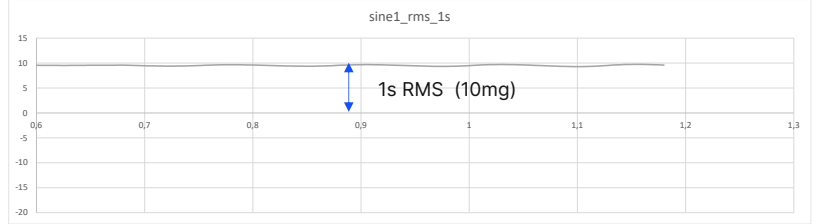


Rectified trace

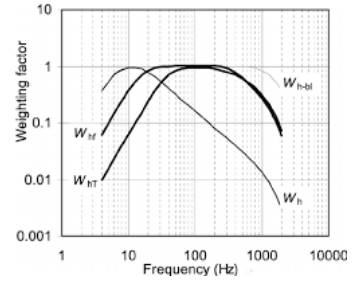


RMS 1s averaged trace

Conventional  
**Elevator** method  
 (ISO18738-1)



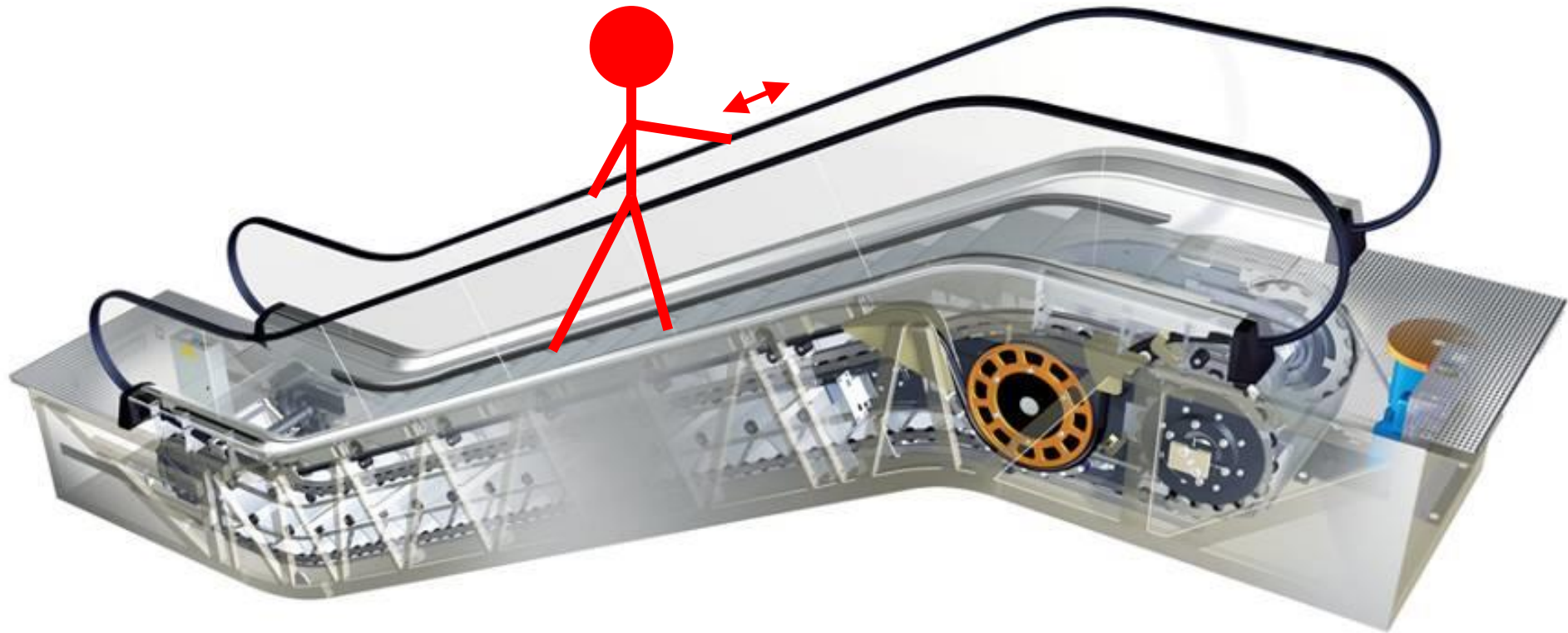
Escalators use  
 Different filters to elevators



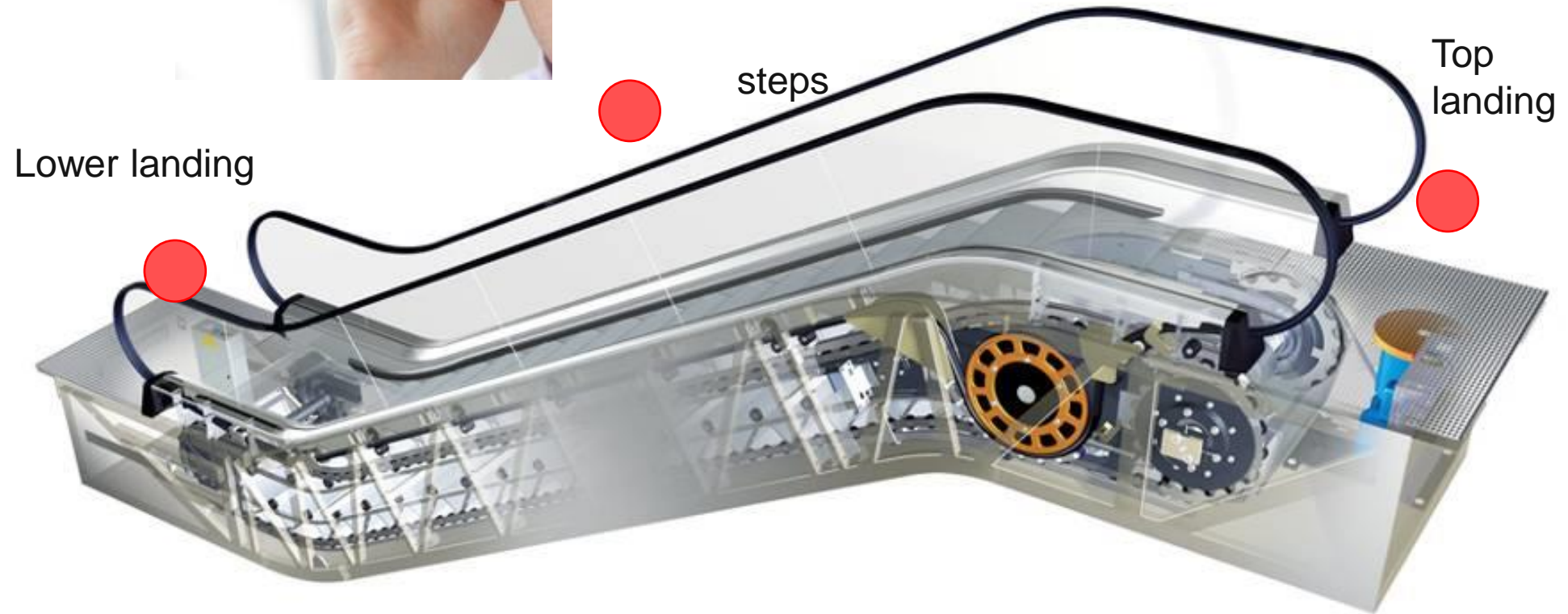


## 2.Handrail vibrations

Moderate-High high freq vibration -> poor quality image  
High vibrations at low frequency -> feels unsafe



## 3.Noise



Perception of noise and its irritation very depending on surroundings  
Quality commercial and quiet airports are most sensitive  
In transit there is often high noise from ventilation masking the esc sound

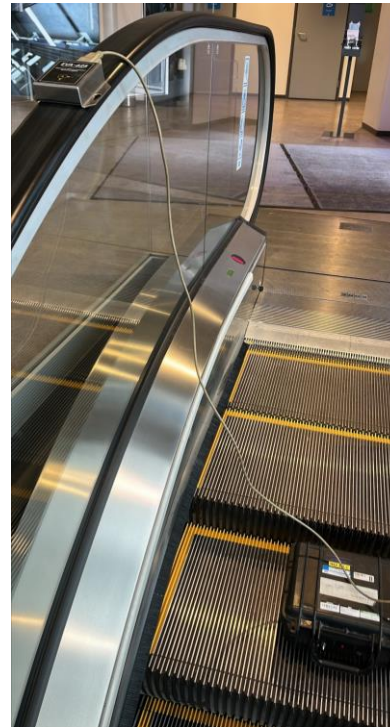
# Esc measurement requirements according to **ISO18738 Part2**



[www.pmtvib.com](http://www.pmtvib.com)



1 step measurement



2 –handrail measurement



3 noise measurement  
Max operational noise levels  
measured 1,55m above step,  
or landings



Note – ISO18738 only defines the method of measurements and processing  
Not pass/fail criteria – these are defined by customer and internal criteria





Thank you

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