

ELA General Assembly 2003

Safety for existing lifts



- The German Betriebssicherheitsverordnung
- The key to increase safety for existing lifts?
- Entry into force: 03.10.02
- Target:
 - Simplification of legislation (existing German safety-legislation covered by several ordinances - now combined in one)
 - Strengthening the owner's responsibility

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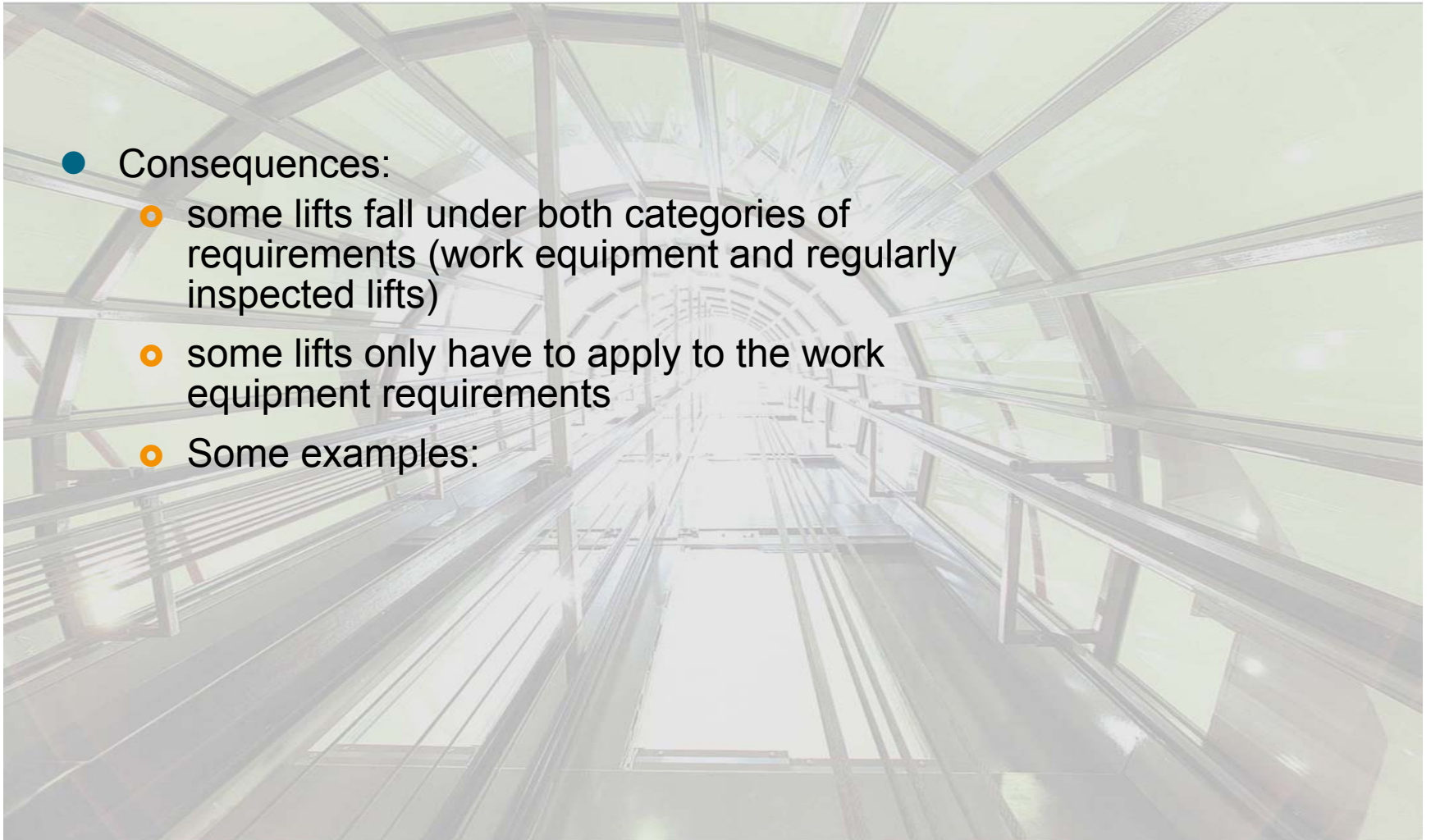
- Title: Verordnung über Sicherheit und Gesundheitsschutz bei der Bereitstellung von Arbeitsmitteln und deren Benutzung bei der Arbeit, über Sicherheit beim Betrieb von überwachungsbedürftigen Anlagen und über die Organisation des betrieblichen Arbeitsschutzes (Betriebssicherheitsverordnung - BetrSichV) vom 27.09.02
- That means 2 major parts of requirements:
 - safety and health requirements for the use of work equipment by workers at work (transposition of two amendments concerning Directive 89/655 EEC)
 - OHS-requirements concerning equipment to be regularly supervised by inspection bodies (Überwachungsbedürftige Anlage = regularly inspected lifts = traditional German legislation)

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- Consequences:
 - some lifts fall under both categories of requirements (work equipment and regularly inspected lifts)
 - some lifts only have to apply to the work equipment requirements
 - Some examples:



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A perspective view of a lift shaft with multiple tracks and cables, looking down the length of the shaft towards a bright opening at the end.

Type of lift	Requirements for regular inspected lifts	Requirements for work equipment
Passenger lifts in apartment buildings	+	+
Passenger lifts in public buildings	+	+
Goods passenger lifts	+	+
Goods only lift (no passenger transport)	-	+
Service lift	-	+

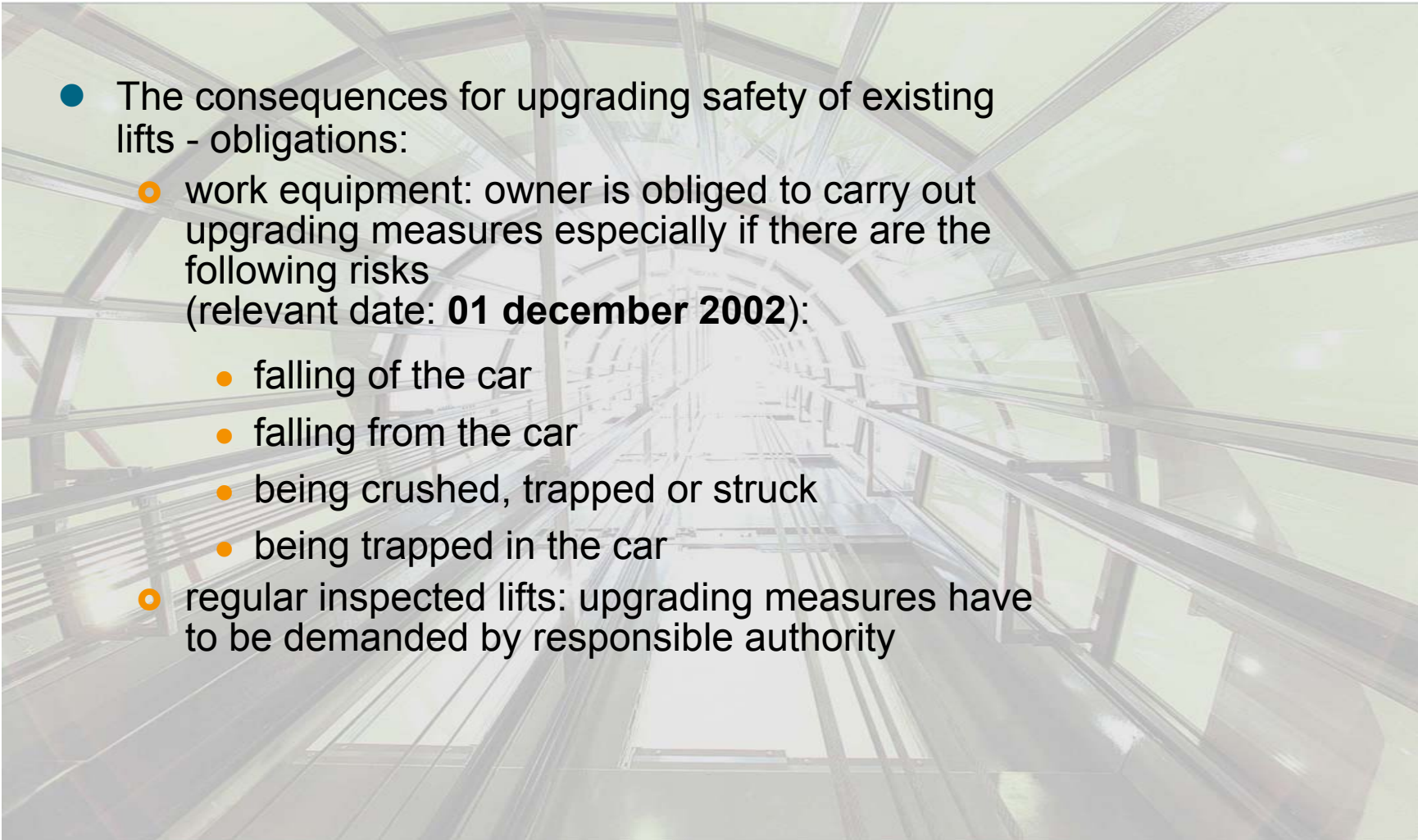
- The key instruments:
 - Hazard assessment (only for work equipment)
 - safety assessment = reference/actual-comparison (only for regular inspected lifts)
 - safety assessment is part of hazard assessment
 - both categories of requirements oblige owner to supervise his lifts regularly:
 - work equipment: inspection has to be done by „competent person“
 - regular inspected lifts: inspection has to be done by accredited (national) inspection bodies (TÜV)

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- The consequences for upgrading safety of existing lifts:
 - owner has to ensure that lifts are operated according to the state of the art
 - operation also means maintenance and inspection
 - owner is obliged to run a hazard assessment or a safety assessment and to identify the lack of safety of his lift(s)
 - VDMA has reached an agreement with German TÜV that these assessments are based on prEN81-80 using the appropriate elements

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- The background of the slide is a photograph of a lift shaft, showing the complex metal framework and cables. The image is slightly faded and has a greenish tint, serving as a backdrop for the text.
- The consequences for upgrading safety of existing lifts - obligations:
 - work equipment: owner is obliged to carry out upgrading measures especially if there are the following risks
(relevant date: **01 december 2002**):
 - falling of the car
 - falling from the car
 - being crushed, trapped or struck
 - being trapped in the car
 - regular inspected lifts: upgrading measures have to be demanded by responsible authority

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- Actual situation:
 - Many open questions - only a few competent answers
 - VDMA has launched position papers and guidance documents to interpret the legislation and to assist member companies to understand the legislation
 - Advisory board for the ministry (to elaborate technical rules for the use of lifts - use, inspection and essential modifications) will be set up in may for the lift sector - VDMA is represented by 3 experts

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- Other national obligations for upgrading existing lifts:
- Modernisation:
 - Since 2 years the so called „Umbaukatalog“ - a catalogue for the modernisation and refurbishing of existing lifts has been published by German ministry
 - Umbaukatalog describes additional safety measures which have to be carried out in combination with modernisation and refurbishing actions
- Environment:
 - Since more than 10 years German water protection legislation requires ground water protection measures (e.g. secondary containment, oil resistant coating of machinery spaces) also for existing installations - relevant for hydraulic lifts

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- Conclusion:
- upgrading of existing lifts has already been subject of existing German legislation (modernisation, environment)
- Betriebssicherheitsverordnung is a big step forward to increase safety of existing lifts
- prEN 81-80 is an important instrument to define the appropriate measures under the Betriebssicherheitsverordnung
- VDMA-experts are in the key positions to influence the future work under the Betriebssicherheitsverordnung