

# Elevator Industry Associations & Acronyms

A plain-English guide to the alphabet soup of the North American elevator & escalator world — who's who, and what each group actually does. Grouped by the job they do, with a quick note on where each one touches a working mechanic.

## 01 TRADE & INDUSTRY BODIES

### NEII

*National Elevator Industry, Inc.*

The trade association for the major manufacturers (Otis, Schindler, KONE, TK Elevator, Fujitec, Mitsubishi). Drives codes, standards, safety and government advocacy. The voice of the "big six."

CODES & ADVOCACY

### NAEC

*National Association of Elevator Contractors*

Founded 1950. Serves independent contractors & suppliers. Runs the big annual convention and the CET & CAT training/certification programs. Largest VT organization in North America.

CONTRACTORS & TRAINING

### CECA

*Canadian Elevator Contractors Association*

The Canadian counterpart since 1972. Non-profit of contractors & suppliers across Eastern, Central, Prairie & Western regions. Works on CSA code, harmonization, labour & apprenticeship.

CANADA

### NEEA

*National Elevator and Escalator Association*

Canadian association (Mississauga, ON) representing the major manufacturers in Canada — effectively the Canadian equivalent of NEII on codes, standards and safety.

CANADA

## 02 LABOUR & BARGAINING

### IUEC

*International Union of Elevator Constructors*

The union — mechanics, helpers and apprentices who install, maintain and service the equipment. Represents 31,000+ members across the U.S. and Canada.

THE UNION

### NEBA

*National Elevator Bargaining Association*

The employer side. Negotiates the national collective bargaining agreement (your contract) with the IUEC on behalf of its member companies.

EMPLOYER GROUP

### ECA

*Elevator Contractors of America*

The second employer group that, alongside NEBA, bargains the national agreement with the IUEC. Tends to represent independent/smaller shops.

EMPLOYER GROUP

### EIWPF

*Elevator Industry Work Preservation Fund*

A labour-management fund created under the contract to protect and promote bargaining-unit work in the industry.

LABOUR-MGMT FUND

## 03 TRAINING & APPRENTICESHIP

### NEIEP

*National Elevator Industry Educational Program*

The joint IUEC + employer apprenticeship and education program (est. 1967). Develops and runs the curriculum that trains union mechanics — apprentice applications go through neiep.org.

APPRENTICESHIP

## 04 SAFETY & INSPECTION

### NAESA

*National Association of Elevator Safety Authorities (International)*

Non-profit of inspectors, contractors & engineers focused on code enforcement. Provides QEI inspector certification (to ASME QEI-1) and runs code-update workshops across the U.S. and Canada.

INSPECTORS / QEI

### EESF

*Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation*

The industry's public-safety charity (since 1991). Runs rider-education programs like Safe-T Rider for schools and National Elevator Escalator Safety Awareness Week each November.

PUBLIC SAFETY

## 05 CONSULTANTS

### IAEC

*International Association of Elevator Consultants*

Membership group for independent VT consultants (formerly the National Association of Vertical Transportation Professionals). Holds an annual Forum and sets a professional bar for the consulting side.

CONSULTANTS

#### OTHER ACRONYMS YOU'LL SEE ON THE JOB

**QEI** — Qualified Elevator Inspector. The inspector certification (standard: ASME QEI-1). Certified by NAESA, among others.

**CET** — Certified Elevator Technician. NAEC's four-year technician training/certification.

**CAT** — Certified Accessibility Technician. NAEC's two-year program for accessibility & residential lifts.

**ASME A17.1** — The U.S. Safety Code for Elevators & Escalators (published by ASME).

**CSA B44** — The Canadian safety code — harmonized with A17.1, so you'll often see it written "ASME A17.1 / CSA B44."

#### A NOTE ON NAMES (THE "NEIA" MIX-UP)

There is **no** elevator or escalator body called "**NEIA**" — not in North America, nor abroad (Australia = AEA, UK = LEIA, Asia-Pacific = PALEA). If you've seen something close, it's most likely one of these:

- **NEII** — sometimes written loosely as "National Elevator Industry *Association*," but its legal name is "National Elevator Industry, *Inc.*"
- **NEI / NEIBP** — the National Elevator Industry *Benefit Plans* (pension & health), the "NEI" on your benefits paperwork.
- **NEIEP** — the training program (above).

For the record, NEII's real name history runs: → **EMA** (Elevator Manufacturers' Association, 1914) → **NEMI** (National Elevator Manufacturing Industry, Inc., 1934) → **NEII** (National Elevator Industry, Inc., from 1969).