

High training standards

In a manpower-strapped industry, lift technicians and engineers are in high demand, but thorough training is required for the job. The Straits Times looks at how Hitachi Elevator Asia does it.

ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

During their three months of probation, new recruits follow experienced technicians out to the field on servicing and maintenance jobs. They learn how to do tasks such as:



- **Checking the top of the lift car**



- **Checking the lift car doors**
This includes testing that the lift will not move if the doors are more than 25mm apart.



- **Checking the traction machine, which is what makes the lift run, in the motor room**



- **Testing the emergency battery-operated power supply**
This keeps the lights and fan running inside the lift even if there is a power failure.

NEWCOMERS' PROGRAMME

After being confirmed, technicians attend a three-day course with both theory and practical aspects. The focus is on basic lift structure and safety on the job, including clear communication when working on-site.

FIRST-YEAR PROGRAMME



After one year on the job, technicians attend an intensive two-day course that includes topics like how to conduct rescue operations. In-house simulators (above) allow hands-on learning on how to control a lift and test doors.

SECOND-YEAR PROGRAMME

After two years on the job, technicians attend a more advanced two-day course covering aspects such as how to adjust an old-fashioned lift control system – found in lifts from before the 1980s, unlike modern lifts which are computer-controlled – and how to do a brake overhaul: dismantling and assembling a lift brake.