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Shunt Trip Breakers

1. The requirement for shunt trip breakers activated by heat sensors within 24 inches of the sprinkler head was added to the A17.elevator code in 1984 which became effective in March of 1985.
2. The A17.3 minimum code for existing elevators does not address shunt trip breakers.
3. Because of this, elevators installed before March of 1985 are not required to have shunt trips on the breakers. However, shunt trips are not prohibited on these units and if they have been installed, they will be required to operate correctly.
4. Elevators installed after March 1985 will be required to have properly operating shunt trips for the elevator disconnects if there are sprinklers in the hoistway or machine room.
5. Elevators being modernized will be required to have properly operating shunt trips if there are sprinklers in the hoistway or machine room.

Gary Brewer
Chief Elevator Inspector
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