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.