

Lift door modernization – not a problem with Meiller Kompakt

Lifts always used to be designed to give a minimum of 15-20 years of faithful service. However, as long as they enjoy proper maintenance and regular servicing and, of course, they are not subjected to improper use, the service life of a lift can be significantly extended. But the point will still come, when a lift starts to show its age, either by its appearance or in terms of technical performance. Since more than half of all lifts installed in Germany are now more than 25 years old, the rapid increase in the rate of lift modernization in recent years should come as no surprise.

There can be many reasons for deciding to undertake lift modernization. For instance, over the years, the components start showing signs of wear, and spare parts are often difficult to come by or are no longer available. Older systems do not operate in line with current safety standards, which harbours a not inconsiderable hazard potential for the user; the operator ultimately bears the risk. So modernizing an old lift can minimize or even eliminate these risks, while raising safety levels in line with the latest standards.

The aspect of energy saving is also a significant one when considering modernizing an old system, as the components installed in old systems are frequently no longer able to fulfil modern expectations or comply with current energy standards.

Finally, a modernized lift installation not only increases user comfort but also raises the value of the property or facility as a whole, thanks to the system's increased ease of operation and more attractive design.

After twenty or more years of service, it is the car doors that display the most wear and are the prime cause of operational disturbances. It is often difficult to provide ongoing help in such cases, and for some models, spare parts are frequently difficult to procure, if they are available at all. In such cases, it makes a lot of sense to replace the car doors.

But landing doors too are subjected to considerable stress on a daily basis. In addition to their regular operation, they also have to withstand improper

use or even vandalism, which often causes disturbances to their functionality or even a total breakdown of the lift.

The installation of robust and hard-wearing components is really the only effective way of countering the problem. When it comes to doors, the long-established Munich company, Meiller Aufzughtüren GmbH, is well known for the solid quality of its product range, which includes horizontal sliding doors, vertical doors, and even swing doors. The use of high quality components ensures that the doors continue to function properly, even under the most difficult operating conditions.

The company also supplies a range of mature products and professional solutions conceived for modernization purposes. Over the years, a number of modernization concepts have been developed, such as car doors with modified skates, for use with landing doors made by other manufacturers or for earlier generations of their own door products. This means that older landing doors can remain in situ and continue to function reliably for a while longer. The operator does not need to commit in one go to a high investment for a complete door replacement, but can tackle the modernization process step by step. By the time the landing doors are replaced, the car doors will no longer need any major modernization work. All that will need to be done is to replace the specially modified door skate with a standard model.

The latest product in Meiller's series of modernization solutions has just been presented for the first time at the interlift 2017, in the form of the new Kompakt door series. Very often, old landing door installations have rather low transom heights of 250 mm or less. As long as these doors are fully suspended in the shaft, this is usually no problem. But if they are installed in the wall recess, whether partially or fully, it will either not be possible at all to replace them with new doors with higher transom dimensions, or else doing so will necessitate cutting open the wall, a laborious and expensive process. Alternatively, local conditions permitting, the entire car can be shifted back or modified accordingly.

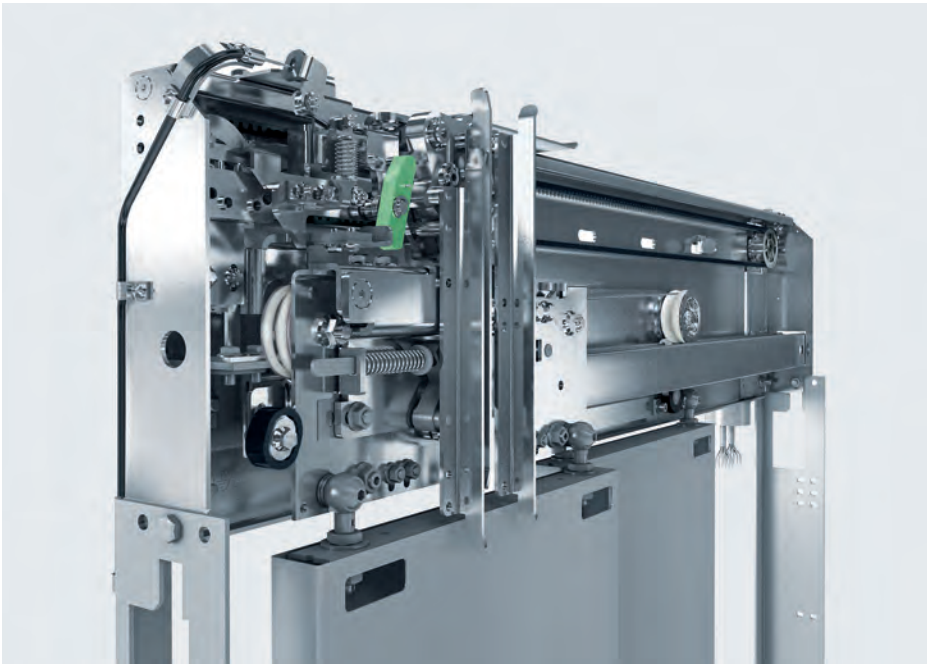
It is for these cases that Kompakt door series with extremely low transom heights has been conceived: in the case of landing doors, the height is only 218 mm, while the car door transom is only 305 mm high.

While there are many modernization concepts on the market that promise space-saving solutions but do not supply the desired level of stable performance, Meiller sticks to its philosophy as a premium manufacturer of guaranteed high-quality, mature products. This means that the design of the transoms in the Kompakt door series is in line with that of standard doors: they are of an encapsulated, torsion-resistant box construction with side walls, which not only ensures their high stability but also protects the mechanics and the electrical components inside the transom from the ingress of dirt from the shaft.

The galvanised running rail made of rolled, bottom-welded profile steel also possesses a high level of resisting torque against warping and sagging. The ball bearing mounted rollers with a diameter of 65 mm from the standard door generation are also used.

This is where the great advantage of the Kompakt series really makes itself felt. All the components that have been in use for years below the transom level are, without exception, standard components from the current door generation 3 – not only the door frames but also the door panels and their guide rails, sills etc. This considerably simplifies the stocking of spare parts by the service company, since many





components that are typically needed in urgent situations that can also be used with the Kompakt doors are often in stock anyway.

In addition, as flexible solutions for a wide range of applications, Kompakt

doors are available in both EvoS (shaft wall installation) and EvoN (niche installation) versions.

Kompakt doors can be supplied in all door panel variations of the standard door generation 3. The extremely ro-

bust and torsion-resistant door panels manufactured by Meiller are made of zinc-magnesium coated sheet metal. These have a double-wall and all-round welded construction as standard, although they can additionally be clad with or made completely of stainless steel. Even framed glass or full-glass panels for the Kompakt series are optionally available.

Kompakt doors can be supplied both as a telescopic construction with door widths of 700 to 1,400 mm and door heights of 2,000 mm to 2,300 mm and as a four-panel, centre-opening version, with door widths of 1,000 to 2,400 mm and door heights, again, of 2,000 to 2,300 mm. A two-panel centre-opening door is also in the pipeline.

With its new Kompakt door series, the company is adding to its already extensive range of innovative modernization concepts that are suitable for just about any application and also offers professional solutions for lift shafts with narrow space conditions.

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