

LiftD: Lifts Directive (Directive 2014/33/EU), explained

The Lifts Directive requires lifts permanently serving buildings and the Annex III safety components for lifts to meet essential health and safety requirements, with notified-body assessment and CE marking, binding installers for lifts and manufacturers and importers for components. It has applied since 20 April 2016; the emergency procedures of Directive (EU) 2024/2749 apply from 30 May 2026.

Reviewed 24 September 2026 by Conphora compliance team · Next review 12 March 2027 · Not legal advice

Key facts

Reference	Directive 2014/33/EU	Act type	Directive
In force	18 April 2014	Applies from	20 April 2016
Amended by	Directive (EU) 2024/2749	Enforced by	National market surveillance authorities enforce the national laws transposing the directive with the powers of Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, which lists Directive 2014/33/EU in its Annex I (Article 37 of the directive still cites Article 15(3) and Articles 16 to 29 of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 and Article 38(1) applies Article 21 of that regulation to the corrective measures; both references are read as references to Regulation (EU) 2019/1020, whose Article 39(1), point (4), deleted Chapter III, Articles 15 to 29, of Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 with effect from 16 July 2021, while Article 30 on the CE marking, which Article 18 of the directive cites, is untouched); in Denmark, Sikkerhedsstyrelsen (since January 2026 the Markedsovervågning department of Erhvervsstyrelsen) has controlled lifts and safety components for lifts as products since 1 December 2018 under the Danish product act (lov om produkter og markedsovervågning, LBK nr. 22 of 8 January 2026, § 2 no. 4 and § 9) and executive order nr. 1540 of 10 December 2015 on the design of lifts and safety components for lifts, as amended by executive order nr. 491 of 28 May 2026.
CELEX	32014L0033		

Key dates

26 February 2014	Directive 2014/33/EU adopted by the European Parliament and the Council as a recast of Directive 95/16/EC	title and signature block after Art. 49
18 April 2014	Entry into force, the twentieth day after publication in OJ L 96 of 29 March 2014	Art. 48, first paragraph
19 April 2016	Deadline for Member States to adopt and publish their transposing laws; Article 1, Article 2 points 1 to 4, Articles 3 to 6, 15 and 16, Article 19(1) to (4), Article 44, Article 45(2), Article 49, Annex I, Annex III and the listed parts of Annexes II and IV to XII apply directly from this date	Art. 45(1) and Art. 48, second paragraph
20 April 2016	National measures apply; Directive 95/16/EC repealed; lifts and safety components conforming to the old directive and placed on the market before this date may still be put into service or made available, and notified-body certificates and decisions issued under it stay valid	Art. 44, Art. 45(1) and Art. 47
28 November 2024	Directive (EU) 2024/2749 in force: internal market emergency procedures inserted as Chapter Va (Articles 41a to 41e);	Art. 6, Art. 11 and Art. 12

transposition by 29
May 2026

30 May 2026

National measures
transposing the
emergency
procedures of
Directive (EU)
2024/2749 apply; in
Denmark executive
order nr. 491 of 28
May 2026 inserts
sections 11 a to 11 c
in the lifts order,
makes
Erhvervsstyrelsen
the authority that
issues the Article 41c
authorisations and
requires the Article
41c(3) information
and marking to be in
Danish or English

Art. 11(2); § 1, nr. 5, og § 2

20 January 2027

Directive
2006/42/EC, which
Annex I points 1.1
and 5.1 refer to for
the machinery
requirements, is
repealed by the
Machinery Regulation
(EU) 2023/1230;
references are read
as references to that
regulation

Art. 51(2) and Art. 54 as corrected by the corrigendum in OJ L 169 of 4 July 2023

Obligations by role

Installer of the lift or manufacturer of the safety component

- Installers: ensure the lift has been designed, manufactured, installed and tested in accordance with the Annex I essential health and safety requirements; manufacturers: ensure the safety component has been designed and manufactured so that it meets Annex I and enables the lift it is incorporated in to meet Annex I. Both must carry out a risk assessment and design to it.

Art. 5, Art. 7(1), Art. 8(1) and Annex I, preliminary remark 3

- Installers: ensure the lift is designed, manufactured, installed and tested to the Annex I essential health and safety requirements. Manufacturers: ensure the safety component is designed and manufactured to Annex I and enables the lift it is incorporated in to meet Annex I. Art. 5, Art. 7(1), Art. 8(1) and Annex I
- Carry out a risk assessment of the lift or safety component to determine all the requirements that apply to it, and design and construct it taking that assessment into account. Annex I, preliminary remark 3
- Draw up the technical documentation and carry out, or have carried out, the relevant conformity assessment procedure: for lifts one of the Article 16 routes (EU-type examination of a model lift under Annex IV Part B or an approved quality system under Annex XI, each followed by final inspection, product quality assurance or production quality assurance; unit verification under Annex VIII; or full quality assurance plus design examination under Annex XI), for safety components one of the Article 15 routes (EU-type examination under Annex IV Part A plus random checking under Annex IX or product quality assurance under Annex VI, or full quality assurance under Annex VII); every route involves a notified body. Art. 7(2), Art. 8(2), Art. 15 and Art. 16
- Draw up the technical documentation for the lift or safety component that the chosen conformity assessment procedure requires. Art. 7(2) and Art. 8(2)
- Carry out, or have carried out, a notified-body conformity assessment: for lifts an Article 16 route (EU-type examination or design examination, followed by final inspection or quality assurance, or unit verification); for safety components an Article 15 route (EU-type examination with random checking or product quality assurance, or full quality assurance). Art. 15 and Art. 16
- Where the procedure has demonstrated compliance, draw up the EU declaration of conformity with the Annex II model structure and the elements of the relevant annex, translated into the languages the Member State requires and continuously updated, ensure it accompanies the lift or safety component, and affix the CE marking before placing on the market, followed by the notified body's identification number where Article 19 requires it. Art. 7(2), Art. 8(2), Art. 17 and Art. 19
- Where the procedure has demonstrated compliance, draw up the EU declaration of conformity with the Annex II structure, translated into the languages the Member State requires and kept up to date, and ensure it accompanies the lift or safety component. Art. 7(2), Art. 8(2) and Art. 17
- Affix the CE marking before placing on the market, followed by the notified body's identification number where Article 19 requires it. Art. 7(2), Art. 8(2) and Art. 19
- Keep the technical documentation, the EU declaration of conformity and, where applicable, the approval decisions for 10 years after the lift or safety component was placed on the market. Art. 7(3) and Art. 8(3)
- Mark the lift, or the safety component or its label, with a type, batch or serial number or other identifier and with your name, registered trade name or trade mark and a single postal contact address, in a language easily understood by end-users and market surveillance authorities.

Art. 7(5), Art. 7(6), Art. 8(5) and Art. 8(6)

- Supply the instructions: for a lift the Annex I point 6.2 instructions with the plans and diagrams for normal use, maintenance, inspection, repair, periodic checks and rescue operations plus a logbook for repairs and periodic checks; for a safety component the Annex I point 6.1 instructions for assembly,

connection, adjustment and maintenance; in a language easily understood by end-users as determined by the Member State, clear and intelligible. In Denmark the EU declaration of conformity must be translated into Danish and the instructions written in Danish before a lift is placed on the market or put into service (section 9) and before a safety component is placed on the market, made available or put into service (section 10); for a safety component the instructions for assembly and connection may be drawn up in another EU language where the undertaking uses that language as its working language and the person installing or assembling the component masters it (section 10, second sentence).

Art. 7(7), Art. 8(7) and Annex I, point 6; § 9 and § 10

- Manufacturers of safety components: keep series production in conformity, taking account of changes in design, characteristics and the harmonised standards or technical specifications referenced, and where the risks warrant it sample-test components on the market, investigate complaints and keep a register of complaints, non-conforming components and recalls, keeping distributors and installers informed. Installers: where the risks warrant it, investigate and keep a register of complaints and of non-conforming lifts. Art. 7(4) and Art. 8(4)
- Manufacturers of safety components: keep series production in conformity, taking account of changes in design or characteristics and in the harmonised standards or technical specifications referenced. Art. 8(4)
- Where the risks warrant it, manufacturers sample-test safety components on the market and keep a register of complaints, non-conforming components and recalls, informing distributors and installers; installers investigate and keep a register of complaints and non-conforming lifts. Art. 7(4) and Art. 8(4)
- If you consider or have reason to believe that a lift or safety component you placed on the market does not conform, immediately take the corrective measures to bring it into conformity, and for a safety component withdraw or recall it if appropriate; where it presents a risk, immediately inform the competent authorities of the Member States concerned with details of the non-conformity and the corrective measures. On reasoned request, provide all information and documentation demonstrating conformity in a language the authority understands, cooperate on risk-elimination measures, and be able to identify your suppliers and customers of safety components for 10 years.

Art. 7(8), Art. 7(9), Art. 8(8), Art. 8(9) and Art. 13

- If a lift or safety component you placed on the market does not conform, immediately take the corrective measures to bring it into conformity, withdraw or recall a safety component if appropriate, and where it presents a risk inform the competent authorities of the Member States concerned.

Art. 7(8) and Art. 8(8)

- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with all information and documentation demonstrating conformity in a language it understands, and cooperate on measures to eliminate the risks.

Art. 7(9) and Art. 8(9)

- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you with safety components and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13

Authorised representative, or the person responsible for the building work

- Authorised representatives act under a written mandate from the installer or manufacturer that at least lets them keep the EU declaration of conformity, any quality-system approval decisions and the technical documentation at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years after placing on the market, provide conformity information and documentation on reasoned request, and cooperate with the authorities on risk-elimination measures. Art. 9
- Act only under a written mandate from the installer or manufacturer that sets out the tasks you perform on its behalf. Art. 9
- Keep the EU declaration of conformity, any quality-system approval decisions and the technical documentation at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years after placing on the market. Art. 9(2)(a)
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, and cooperate with it on measures to eliminate the risks of the products covered by your mandate. Art. 9(2)(b) and Art. 9(2)(c)
- Authorised representatives cannot take over the duty to design, manufacture, install and test to Annex I or the duty to draw up the technical documentation; those obligations stay with the installer or manufacturer and cannot form part of the mandate, although the mandate may cover lodging the application for EU-type examination with the notified body.

Art. 9(1) and Annex IV, Part A, point 2, and Part B, point 2

- The person responsible for work on the building or construction and the installer must provide each other with the necessary information and take the appropriate steps to ensure the proper operation and safe use of the lift; shafts intended for lifts may contain no piping, wiring or fittings other than those necessary for the operation and safety of the lift. Art. 6; § 6 and § 8
- As the installer, keep the person responsible for work on the building or construction informed of the facts needed for the proper operation and safe use of the lift, and agree with them the steps that ensure it, including a shaft free of piping, wiring or fittings the lift does not need. Art. 6; § 6 and § 8
- Where the person responsible for the design and manufacture of a lift and the person responsible for its installation and testing are not the same, the former must supply the latter with all the documents and information needed for correct and safe installation and testing. Art. 16(2)

Importer of safety components

- Place only compliant safety components on the market, and before doing so ensure that the manufacturer carried out the appropriate Article 15 conformity assessment procedure, drew up the technical documentation, affixed the CE marking, supplied the EU declaration of conformity and the required documents, and applied the identification and address markings; hold a non-conforming component back until it conforms and, where it presents a risk, inform the manufacturer and the market surveillance authorities. Art. 10(1) and Art. 10(2)
- Indicate your name, registered trade name or trade mark and a postal contact address on the safety component or, where not possible, on its packaging or in an accompanying document, in a language easily understood by end-users and authorities, and ensure the component is accompanied by the Annex I point 6.1 instructions in the language the Member State determines. Art. 10(3) and Art. 10(4)
- Indicate your name, registered trade name or trade mark and a postal contact address on the safety component or, where not possible, on its packaging or in an accompanying document, in a language end-users and authorities easily understand. Art. 10(3)
- Ensure the safety component is accompanied by the Annex I point 6.1 instructions in the language the Member State determines. Art. 10(4)
- Keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising compliance with the essential health and safety requirements while the component is under your responsibility, and where the risks warrant it sample-test components on the market, investigate complaints and keep a register of complaints, non-conforming components and recalls, keeping distributors and installers informed. Art. 10(5) and Art. 10(6)
- While a safety component is under your responsibility, keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising its compliance with the essential health and safety requirements. Art. 10(5)
- Where the risks warrant it, sample-test safety components on the market, investigate complaints, keep a register of complaints, non-conforming components and recalls, and keep distributors and installers informed of that monitoring. Art. 10(6)
- If a safety component you placed on the market does not conform, immediately take corrective measures, withdraw or recall it if appropriate, and where it presents a risk immediately inform the competent authorities of the Member States where you made it available. Art. 10(7)
- Keep a copy of the EU declaration of conformity and any approval decisions at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years and ensure the technical documentation can be made available on request; provide conformity information on reasoned request in a language the authority understands, cooperate on risk-elimination measures, and identify your suppliers and customers for 10 years. Art. 10(8), Art. 10(9) and Art. 13
- Keep a copy of the EU declaration of conformity and any approval decisions at the disposal of the market surveillance authorities for 10 years, and ensure the technical documentation can be made available on request. Art. 10(8)
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity in a language it understands, and cooperate on measures to eliminate the risks. Art. 10(9)
- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you with safety components and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13
- If you place a safety component on the market under your own name or trade mark, or modify a component already on the market in a way that may affect compliance, you carry the manufacturer's obligations under Article 8. Art. 12

Distributor of safety components (wholesaler or retailer)

- Act with due care and, before making a safety component available, verify that it bears the CE marking, is accompanied by the EU declaration of conformity, the required documents and the Annex I point 6.1 instructions in the language the Member State determines, and that the manufacturer and importer have applied their identification and address markings; hold a non-conforming component back and, where it presents a risk, inform the manufacturer or importer and the market surveillance authorities.

Art. 11(1) and Art. 11(2)

- Keep storage and transport conditions from jeopardising the component's compliance with the essential health and safety requirements while it is under your responsibility. Art. 11(3)
- If a safety component you made available does not conform, make sure the corrective measures to bring it into conformity, withdraw or recall it are taken, and where it presents a risk immediately inform the competent authorities of the Member States concerned. Art. 11(4)
- On reasoned request, provide the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, cooperate on risk-elimination measures, and identify your suppliers and customers for 10 years. Art. 11(5) and Art. 13
- On a reasoned request, provide the authority with the information and documentation demonstrating conformity, and cooperate on measures to eliminate the risks of safety components you made available.

Art. 11(5)

- Be able to identify, for 10 years after each supply, the economic operators that supplied you with safety components and the economic operators you supplied. Art. 13
- If you sell a safety component under your own name or trade mark or modify it in a way that may affect compliance, you take on the manufacturer's obligations. Art. 12

Penalties

Member States lay down the rules on penalties for infringements of their national transposing laws by economic operators and enforce them; the penalties must be effective, proportionate and dissuasive and may include criminal penalties for serious infringements. Market surveillance authorities evaluate a lift or safety component that presents a risk to the health or safety of persons or the safety of property, require the installer to bring the lift into compliance, or the relevant operator to bring the component into compliance, withdraw or recall it, within a period commensurate with the risk, inform the notified body, and if the operator fails to act restrict or prohibit the placing on the market or use of the lift or recall it, or prohibit or restrict the making available of the component, withdraw or recall it, and notify the Commission and the other Member States; compliant lifts and components that still present a risk can be treated the same way. Formal non-compliance, such as CE marking affixed wrongly or not at all, a missing or wrongly affixed notified-body number, a missing or incorrect EU declaration of conformity, unavailable or incomplete technical documentation, missing name and address or identification markings or missing instructions, must be ended and otherwise leads to restriction or prohibition of use or recall of the lift, or restriction, prohibition, withdrawal or recall of the component. In Denmark, the directive is implemented by executive order nr. 1540 of 10 December 2015 on the design of lifts and safety components for lifts, as amended by executive order nr. 491 of 28 May 2026, whose § 14 makes breaches of §§ 4 to 6 and 8 to 10 or of the directive's provisions punishable by a fine, and by the Danish product act, whose § 37(1) fines economic operators that breach their duties under §§ 5, 7, 10 to 17, 19 or 21, evade the control authority's control or misuse the CE marking, and whose § 37(2) raises the penalty to imprisonment of up to 2 years under aggravating circumstances — lifts are product area no. 4 in § 2(1), inside the range § 2(1) nos 1 to 11 and 13 to 43 that § 37(2) covers. Aggravating circumstances are that the infringement created a danger to safety or health, caused an accident with serious injury or death, is a repeat offence or was part of a systematic infringement for financial gain. Sikkerhedsstyrelsen, since January 2026 a department of Erhvervsstyrelsen named Markedsovervågning, has been the control authority for lifts and safety components as products since 1 December 2018. Art. 43, Art. 38, Art. 40 and Art. 41; § 14; § 1; § 2, § 9 and § 37

Checklist

- 1. Confirm the product is a lift permanently serving a building or construction with an accessible carrier, or one of the six Annex III safety components, and that no Article 1(2) exclusion such as the 0,15 m/s speed limit, construction site hoists or escalators applies (Article 1 and Annex III).
- 2. Decide your role: the installer takes responsibility for the whole lift, the manufacturer for each safety component, and an importer or distributor that rebrands or modifies a component becomes its manufacturer (Article 2, points (6) to (10), and Article 12).
- 3. Carry out the risk assessment and design to the Annex I essential health and safety requirements, applying Annex I to the Machinery Directive for risks Annex I does not cover, and use the harmonised standards published in the Official Journal for the presumption of conformity (Article 5, Article 14 and Annex I).
- 4. Choose the conformity assessment route with a notified body listed in NANDO for Directive 2014/33/EU: Article 16 for lifts (model lift plus final inspection or quality assurance, unit verification, or full quality assurance with design examination) and Article 15 for safety components (EU-type examination plus random checking or product quality assurance, or full quality assurance).
- 5. For model lifts, specify all permitted variations with maximum and minimum values in the technical documentation, and where design and installation are split hand the installer the documents needed for safe installation and testing (Article 16(2) and (3)).
- 6. Draw up the EU declaration of conformity with the Annex II structure, as a single declaration where other Union acts also apply, and keep it, the technical documentation and any approval decisions for 10 years (Articles 7(3), 8(3) and 17).
- 7. Affix the CE marking to each lift car and each safety component or its label before placing on the market, followed by the notified body's identification number for final inspection, unit verification and quality assurance routes (Article 19).
- 8. Mark the type or serial number and your name and address, and supply the Annex I point 6.1 or 6.2 instructions, the lift logbook and, in Denmark, a Danish translation of the declaration and Danish instructions (Articles 7(5) to 7(7) and 8(5) to 8(7); executive order 1540/2015 § 9 and § 10).
- 9. Set up the corrective-action and notification procedure, the complaints register where the risks warrant it and 10-year supplier and customer traceability for safety components (Articles 7(4), 7(8), 8(4), 8(8), 10(7), 11(4) and 13).

Sources

1. Directive 2014/33/EU on lifts and safety components for lifts, consolidated text of 30 May 2026 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02014L0033-20260530>
2. Directive 2014/33/EU as published in OJ L 96, 29 March 2014 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32014L0033>
3. Document information, dates and relationships for CELEX 32014L0033 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/ALL/?uri=CELEX:32014L0033>
4. Directive (EU) 2024/2749 on emergency procedures for the conformity assessment and market surveillance of products (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32024L2749>
5. Regulation (EU) 2019/1020 on market surveillance and compliance of products, Annex I listing Directive 2014/33/EU (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32019R1020>
6. Regulation (EU) 2023/1230 on machinery, consolidated text of 27 July 2026, Article 51 repealing Directive 2006/42/EC from 20 January 2027 (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:02023R1230-20260727>
7. Regulation (EC) No 765/2008 on accreditation and market surveillance (EUR-Lex) — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32008R0765>
8. Lifts, including the Guide to Applying the Lifts Directive and the guidance on the transition to the Machinery Regulation (European Commission, DG GROW) — https://single-market-economy.ec.europa.eu/sectors/mechanical-engineering/lifts_en
9. Kontrol med elevatorer og tovbåner (Sikkerhedsstyrelsen) — <https://www.sik.dk/erhverv/produkter/elevatorer-og-tovbaner/kontrol-og-tilsyn/kontrol-elevatorer-og-tovbaner>
10. Sikkerhedsstyrelsen, en del af Erhvervsstyrelsen from January 2026 (Sikkerhedsstyrelsen) — <https://www.sik.dk/sikkerhedsstyrelsen-del-erhvervsstyrelsen>
11. Bekendtgørelse nr. 1540 af 10. december 2015 om indretning m.v. af elevatorer og sikkerhedskomponenter til elevatorer (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2015/1540>
12. Bekendtgørelse nr. 491 af 28. maj 2026 om ændring af bekendtgørelse om indretning m.v. af elevatorer og sikkerhedskomponenter til elevatorer (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2026/491>
13. Lov om produkter og markedsovervågning, LBK nr. 22 af 8. januar 2026 (Retsinformation) — <https://www.retsinformation.dk/eli/lta/2026/22>