

# National Lift Tower

## Drop testing information sheet

The National Lift Tower is a 127m building located in Northampton. Originally built by the Express Lift Company, the tower is now privately owned and operated.

Whilst still used as a research, development and testing facility for the lift industry, the scope of operations at the tower has been increased to include drop testing facilities for other sectors. As such, it is an invaluable resource for both manufacturers and certifying bodies.

One of the lift shafts has been adapted so that we are able to carry out drop tests on many types of equipment, including fall arresters and descenders, at heights of up to 100 metres. Tests can be repeated in rapid succession and this unique resource has proved itself invaluable for the development and testing of products still in the prototyping phase of development. Additionally, we are able to undertake periodic testing of products already on the market. The shaft has also been successfully used for type testing an advanced form of height safety system.



For larger masses (up to 10 tonnes), we have a dedicated 30m drop test shaft which was originally used for testing the safety equipment installed on lifts to prevent uncontrolled falling. This shaft has dedicated access via roller shutters on the ground floor to allow for easy installation of equipment.

A specialised rig has been installed into the drop test shaft for testing lanyards over an edge in accordance with the CNB/P/11.060 method.

Other tall vertical spaces in the building include a 78m rope testing facility, and a 40m ladder which can be used for testing and demonstrating height safety equipment.



All of our testing facilities are indoors and are supported by two office/conferencing levels, well equipped workshops and experienced engineering staff.



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