

# STAIR LIFT USE IN EXISTING PRIVATE CLUBS/RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS

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On August 22, 2011, the NC Building Code Council approved the following request to use a stair lift in an existing church, religious entity or private club. The language that was approved by the NC Building Code Council, after review by the Building Committee, was as follows:

**3409.8.3 Platform lifts.** Platform (wheelchair) lifts complying with ICC A117.1 and installed in accordance with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted as a component of an accessible route.

**Exception:** A chairlift that complies with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted to be a part of a required accessible route in alterations of existing occupancies in:

1. Religious organizations or entities controlled by religious organizations, including places of worship.
2. Private clubs or establishments exempted under Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

**3409.8.3 Platform lifts.** Platform (wheelchair) lifts complying with ICC A117.1 and installed in accordance with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted as a component of an accessible route.

**3409.8.3.1 Inclined stairway chairlifts.** Inclined stairway chairlifts that do not reduce the required means of egress and installed in accordance with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted as a component of an accessible route in alterations of existing occupancies in:

1. Religious organizations or entities controlled by religious organizations, including places of worship;  
or
2. Private clubs or establishments exempted under Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Such inclined stairway chairlifts shall be approved for commercial use by the manufacturer and installed by approved factory trained installers.

**Approved:** April 22, 2011

**Effective Date:** January 1, 2015 [when the code language will be printed in the next NC Building Code]

**To Use Prior to Effective Date:** Request use under NC Admin Code 105.2 Interim Use of Approved Codes

**Documentation:** The footer provides a link to the Building Code Council (BCC) Meeting Minutes documenting approval of the request.

**History:** For your convenience, the text of the submittal to the BCC and the final approval language is provided below.

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## **Item D – 2 Request by Vicky L. Moody, Project Manager, and Charles Knapp, Owner of Rooster Ridge Stairlifts, to amend the 2012 NC Building Code, Section 3409.8.3.**

### **The proposed amendment is as follows:**

**1109.7 Lifts.** Platform (wheelchair) lifts are permitted to be a part of a required accessible route in new construction where indicated in Items 1 through 10. Platform (wheelchair) lifts shall be installed in accordance with ASME A18.1.

1. An accessible route to a performing area and speaker platforms in Group A occupancies.
2. An accessible route to wheelchair spaces required to comply with the wheelchair space dispersion requirements of Sections 1108.2.2 through 1108.2.6.
3. An accessible route to spaces that are not open to the general public with an occupant load of not more than five.
4. An accessible route within a dwelling or sleeping unit.
5. An accessible route to wheelchair seating spaces located in outdoor dining terraces in Group A-5 occupancies where the means of egress from the dining terraces to a public way are open to the outdoors.
6. An accessible route to jury boxes and witness stands; raised courtrooms stations including judges' benches, clerks' stations, bailiffs' stations, deputy clerks' stations and court reporters' stations; and to depressed areas such as the well of the court.
7. An accessible route to load and unload areas serving amusement rides.
8. An accessible route to play components or soft contained play structures.
9. An accessible route to team or player seating areas serving areas of sport activity.
10. An accessible route where existing exterior site constraints make use of a ramp or elevator infeasible.

**Exception:** A chairlift that complies with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted to be a part of a required accessible route in new construction and in alterations of existing occupancies:

1. Religious organizations or entities controlled by religious organizations, including places of worship.
2. Private clubs or establishments exempted under Title II of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

### **The Building Committee met following the March Council meeting and offered the following amended language:**

**3409.8.3 Platform lifts.** Platform (wheelchair) lifts complying with ICC A117.1 and installed in accordance with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted as a component of an accessible route.

**Exception:** A chairlift that complies with ASME A18.1 shall be permitted to be a part of a required accessible route in alterations of existing occupancies in:

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Motion – Mack Nixon/Second – Lon McSwain/Approved as amended above.

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