



Lift & Escalator Owner News

Subject: **BREEAM Credit for Energy Efficient Features on Escalator and Moving Walks**

BREEAM (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) is a sustainability assessment method that is used to masterplan projects, infrastructure, and buildings. Launched in 1990, by the Building Research Establishment (BRE) sets standards for the environmental performance of buildings through the design, specification, construction, and operation phases and can be applied to new developments or refurbishment schemes via assessments using recognised measures of performance, which are set against established benchmarks. The measures represent a broad range of categories and criteria from energy to ecology, including aspects related to energy and water use, the internal environment (health and well-being), pollution, transport, materials, waste, ecology and management processes.

BREEAM Technical Manuals include a section “Ene 06 Energy efficient transportation systems” which details how BREEAM credits can be claimed for lifts, escalators and moving walks. Supplementary guidance is published on the BREEAM Knowledge Base website as Compliance Notes (KBCN) which typically cover how the criteria can be interpreted and therefore applied to specific situations on a project. A compliance note reference [KCBN1621](#) has recently been published which provides supplementary guidance for claiming the credit for energy efficient features on escalators and moving walks.

Assessment Criteria

Ene 06 specifies two alternative requirements for claiming the credit for energy efficient features on escalators and moving walks:

Specify at least one of the following for each escalator or moving walk:

- a. A load sensing device that synchronises motor output to passenger demand through a variable speed drive. **OR***
- b. A passenger sensing device for automated operation (auto walk), so the escalator operates in auto start mode when there is no passenger demand.*

KCBN1621 clarifies the requirement for 'a load sensing device that synchronises motor output to passenger demand through a variable speed drive' and confirms only a full-time inverter qualifies for the credit as the inverter needs to be able to moderate output based on passenger demand.

Part-time inverters which are only used to reduce the nominal speed when no passengers are using the escalator or moving walk do not qualify for the credit as they do not synchronise motor power to passenger demand when the escalator or moving walk is carrying passengers.

Further guidance outlines that manufacturers must take care when advertising or marketing their products, so to not claim or imply that products are 'BREEAM compliant' or that any assessment automatically achieves credits if their products are used and can be found in [KBCN0925](#).