

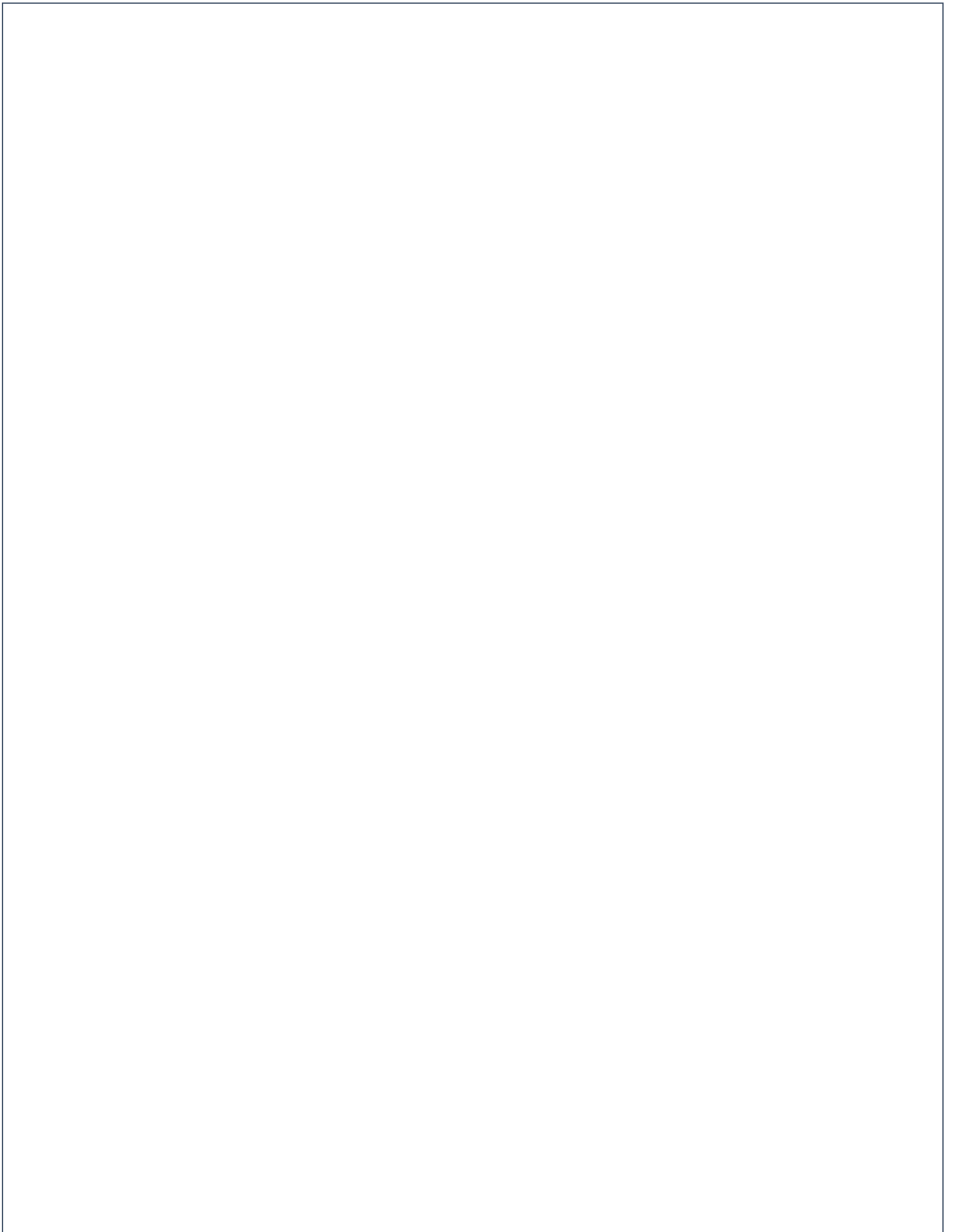
Elevator Industry Safety Summit

A focus on key fatality prevention for elevator industry professionals and the riding public.



May 2017

Phoenix, AZ

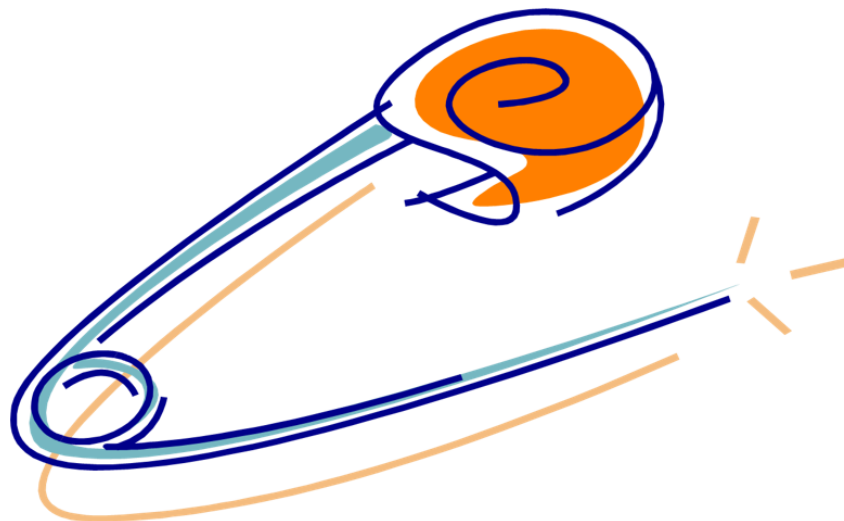


Elevator Industry Safety Summit
Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>TITLE</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Safety Messages.....	2
Sponsors.....	3
Agenda.....	8
Speaker Bios.....	11
Thank You.....	16
Poem by Lawrence Taylor.....	17
Elevator Rules.....	18
The Up Man by Anthony Caporale.....	19
Notes.....	23

Stay Safety Pinned!



Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

SAFETY MESSAGES

Here we are on the morning of the start of the first ever Elevator Industry Safety Summit. We are all together on this morning of Monday May 22nd to hopefully start a safety movement, harnessing the momentum from within this room and swelling the tide of safety for all outside these walls. A growing safety movement made possible by all here today and with the generous support from our sponsors, some of whom were unable to attend, so be sure to review our honored list of sponsors attached and say thank you! At no time or place in the world has an elevator industry event ever been entirely focused on Elevator Safety with people from all aspects of the industry coming together for a sole safety goal, to save lives! So here is where we sit today with the Safety Summit, it's time to start the music and light the lights for safety together, knowing that we will not accept failure in our effort to save lives.

Here's hoping that we will never have to wonder how life goes on for some or to ever have to think again, who will fill their shoes?

The Safety Summit has been dedicated to the life and safety vision of the late Bob Caporale Sr, a caring friend to all!

Bob knew before his passing, that this event was going to be held in his honor to memorialize his life and to carry on his great work in trying to make a safer world for all who ride and work on elevators and escalators. His safety energy will live on forever and he will never be forgotten, his smile and wisdom are missed by all! Today Bob's dream is realized, God bless him!

*Humbly and sincerely,
Bob Shepherd
Executive Director, NAESA International*

"A Safety Message"

For those of us who have placed our feet onto or into a working area of an elevator or escalator, here is a little food for thought. When was the moment you first caught onto the safety message? Was it a close call for you, or a fellow mechanic, was it when you recognized accidents are happening to others thinking I better pay attention to the words of the EIFESH? Or like me, it took an entrapment, nothing serious but, doing something I shouldn't have been doing. During that time, I had plenty of time to absorb the thoughts and predict my future if I didn't change. Whatever is your motivation for safety, I hope, like me it comes before you have to face the real cost of "NO Safety" in your daily activity. To realize, we as individuals are not the only ones affected by the lack of safety in our daily lives. Please take time for safety, you're the one who matters most, you are the one who can change the direction.

Take "Time for Safety"

Sincerely, Jack Day

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David McColl

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

AGENDA

Agenda is subject to change.

Sunday, May 21st

- 6:00pm – 8:00pm **Registration**
Room: Valley of the Sun DE Foyer. Pick up your name tag and raffle ticket.
- 7:00pm – 9:00pm **Welcome Reception**
Room: Valley of the Sun Foyer. Appetizers and refreshments provided.

Monday, May 22nd

- 6:30am – 7:30am **Registration**
Room: Valley of the Sun DE Foyer. Breakfast provided in Valley of the Sun DE.
- 7:30am – 10:00am **General Session moderated by Dave Turner**
Room: Valley of the Sun ABC
- Bob Schumacher – Elevator Chief City of Phoenix: Welcome from the City of Phoenix AHJ**
- Robert Caporale Jr.: A Time to Reflect**
Sharing a passion for safety in the elevator industry, Robert Caporale Jr. will speak on behalf of his late father, Robert Caporale Sr.
- Tom Vining, President Americas Otis Elevator Company**
The reason we remember Elisha Otis isn't for inventing the elevator; instead, his legacy is built on making the elevator safe. Today, safety remains Otis Elevator's No. 1 priority. Otis Americas President Tom Vining will examine safety at Otis Elevator, discuss initiatives Otis is taking today and how it will achieve its future state of zero fatalities. Otis is working to identify ways to leverage technology and field-partnership to ensure a robust safety program focused on risk reduction and injury prevention.
- Mike Corbo, General Manager, Senior VP Mitsubishi Elevator Company: Don't Just Do Your Job & Work Safely, Do Your Job Safely**
Mike Corbo will share stories and industry best practices relating to workplace distractions. Key areas that he will cover are: Distraction Leads to Accidents; Innovations & Technology; On-going Safety Training & Lessons Learned; Cultural Differences
- 10:00am – 10:15am **Break**
Room: Valley of the Sun Foyer. Refreshments provided.
- 10:15am – 11:15am **Steve Berney, Draka Industries: Risk Assessment**

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

AGENDA

11:15am – 11:45am **Frank Christensen, IUEC General President: Safety is Everyone's Responsibility**

11:45am – 12:45pm **Peter Susca: Changing Behavior for Fatality Prevention**

The session will discuss the precursors of fatalities and serious injuries (FSIs) and how changing organizational behavior impacts fatality potential. We will review and discuss; organizational and operational factors that influence decision-making, identification and elevation of FSI risk, work and safety process design impacts and human performance/ behavior considerations. Understanding and implementing a well-rounded approach to FSI management is critical to your success.

12:45pm – 1:45pm **Lunch provided**

Room: Valley of the Sun DE

1:45pm – 2:30pm **Rob Merlo and Ray Downs: Key Fatality Prevention with Lock Out Tag Out**

2:30pm – 3:15pm **Bob Rodriguez and Kevin Dix: Key Fatality Prevention with Car Top & Pit Access**

3:15pm – 3:30pm **Break**

Room: Valley of the Sun Foyer. Refreshments provided.

3:30pm – 4:00pm **Aled Jones, Corey Ward: Key Fatality Prevention with Jumpers**

4:00pm – 4:30pm **John Goodpaster: Key Fatality Prevention with Fall Protection**

4:30pm – 5:15pm **Rene Karavas and Ted Gervais TSSA: High Risk Elevator Pits**

5:15pm – 6:30pm **Evening Reception**

Room: Valley of the Sun Foyer. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments provided.

6:30pm – 10:00pm **Dinner**

Room: Valley of the Sun ABC. Provided along with live music.

Tuesday May 23rd

7:00am – 8:00am **Registration**

Room: Valley of the Sun DE Foyer. Breakfast provided in Valley of the Sun DE.

8:00am – 10:15am **General Session moderated by Dave Turner**

Room: Valley of the Sun ABC

William Seymour: Machine Guarding

An overview of serious injury risks in elevator machine rooms and the use of OSHA compliant machine guarding to prevent accidents to both elevator industry and non-industry personnel.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

AGENDA

Robert Kaspersma, Liftinstituut: An Integral Safety Vision

Liftinstituut believes elevator and escalator safety is not a one dimensional or single factor responsibility. Rather, it is a complex combination of factors including design and maintenance, but also, and possibly more importantly, behavioral aspects. In recent years Liftinstituut is looking to combine these factors into an integral safety approach.

Hank Peelle, President Peelle Door Company: Vertical Light Curtains

For more than 4 years, A17 has required light curtains on vertically acting freight elevator doors. Prior to this, A17 permitted the use of mechanical devices that permitted contact with the obstruction to initiate reversal. Some Vertical Door Manufacturers, in the early 1990's shifted from the industry standard mechanical reversing edge to a light curtain for obstruction detection. The inclusion of light curtains on vertical doors has greatly reduced the number of impact injuries. In this topic, I will discuss the requirements for vertical door protection devices, how the A17 committee came up with these requirements, the challenges and benefits that have resulted and where the vertical door industry goes from here.

10:15am – 10:30am **Break**

Room: Valley of the Sun Foyer. Refreshments provided.

10:30am – 12:00pm **Elevator Industry Safety, Open Forum Panel Discussion**

12:00pm – 1:00PM **Lunch provided**

Room: Valley of the Sun DE.

1:00pm – 1:30PM **Tom Sybert: EESF Presentation**

The EESF has been educating the general riding public since 1991. With over 8 million children's packets sent out between the years 1991-2014 the foundation has invested in rebranding the program to reach parents, teachers and children online in today's digital space. The presentation will cover the marketing plan as we target the new program in both US and Canadian markets. In addition, a recap on the support the foundation has received from elevator mechanics over the last few years as well as ideas on how they might be able to help in preventing accidents due to rider behavior will also be shared.

1:30pm – 3:00pm **Fatality Prevention Area Task Group Discussion with Working Group Member Appointments**

Closing

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

SPEAKER BIOS

Davis Turner, Owner, Davis L. Turner & Associates



Mr. Davis (Dave) L. Turner is the Founder and President of Davis L. Turner & Associates, LLC, an independent vertical transportation consulting firm located in Mission Viejo, California. The firm provides elevator and escalator technical expertise to a wide range of clients. Dave is a 55-year veteran of the elevator industry having begun his career with Otis Elevator Company in 1962 in New York in the construction department.

Robert Shepherd, Executive Director, NAESA Int'l



Bob entered the elevator industry as an IUEC helper in 1973 and was employed by Otis Elevator since 1982 till 2015 and is presently the Executive Director of NAESA International. Bob attended Kutztown State College where he majored in Elementary Education, but left college after three years to enter the elevator industry. He is QEI Certified since 2004 and is a member of the A17 Standards Committee and the Inspections, Maintenance Repair/Replacement, Guide for Emergency Personnel, Qualified Elevator Inspector, Inclined Elevators, Escalator/Moving Walk committees and the Regulatory Authority Committee/Contributing Member. My focus in life after family is: Elevator Safety for All! Bob has two children and three grandchildren which are my life and why safety means so much to me, I never stop worrying about their safety! Bob's motto: "I have never had a bad day in my life!" Think about, if on my worse day there are billions of people in this world who would change places with me, how can my day be bad? If truly bad, who would want my day?

Jack Day, Education Director, NAESA International



Jack took a position with NAESA International as the Educational Director and full time instructor in January of 2017. Among many duties, he is primarily responsible for updating the training material to meet the NAESA guidelines and QEI standards. Previously, Jack was appointed as Chief Elevator Inspector for the State of Washington on January 3, 2005 through December 2016. He had worked briefly as Elevator Technical Specialist for Labor and Industries after moving to WA from Missouri. He has over 23 years of experience in the elevator industry.

Bob Caporale, President, Sequent Learning Networks



Bob Caporale is an internationally acclaimed thought leader on the subjects of strategic planning, product management, and business leadership. He uniquely draws upon a combination of diverse experiences as both a corporate leader and a musical composer to explore the marriage of art and science within the business world. A regular speaker at industry conferences and corporate events, Bob inspires his audiences to infuse more passion and creativity into every single business task they perform. Bob is the president of Sequent Learning Networks, an industry-leading training and advisory company specializing in the areas of product management, product strategy, and product marketing. Bob is also the author Creative Strategy Generation (McGraw-Hill), the co-host of the popular YouTube series Beyond The Beef, and the creative force behind Theatre Of Life, a unique soundtrack project that continues to fuel his passion for music and composing.

Bob Schumacher, Chief, City of Phoenix, AZ



Robert Schumacher has over 32 years in the elevator industry with over 7 years' supervision, 12 years as a general inspector, 12 years as a member of the international union of elevator constructors. Robert is presently the Elevator Field Supervisor for the City of Phoenix, the 5th largest city in the nation. He is responsible for 7 field inspectors and support staff with a total of over 5,300 elevators to be inspected annually. Robert has been a member of NAESA since 2010. Robert first obtained his QEI in May of 2000.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

SPEAKER BIOS

Tom Vining, President, Otis Americas



Tom Vining was named president, Otis Americas, in January 2014 and is responsible for the overall leadership and operating performance of Otis Elevator Company in North and South America. He is based in West Palm Beach, Florida. Vining joined Otis in 1988, progressing through various positions of increasing responsibility in North America from service and new equipment sales, to branch and regional general management roles before being promoted to vice president, field operations, for Otis North and South America. In 2009, Vining moved to Asia, where he was named area director for Hong Kong and Taiwan, and eventually promoted to president, Otis Elevator Korea, and then president, Otis China. Vining holds a bachelor's degree in computer science and economics from Duke University and a Master of Business Administration from Harvard University.

Mike Corbo, GM/EVP, Mitsubishi Electric US, Inc.



Michael Corbo began his career as the first sales representative from 1986 to 1990 where he managed the company's San Francisco branch office, and he was instrumental in the sale of the first spiral escalators in North America. Corbo served as the division's deputy general manager from 1997 to 1999 and national sales manager from 1991 to 1997. Corbo assumed complete responsibility for the elevator and escalator division in 1999 when he was named general manager/vice president. In 2003, he was promoted to general manager/senior vice president and then promoted in 2014 to his current position as general manager/executive vice president.

Hank Peelle, CEO, Peelle Elevator Company



Hank Peelle is CEO of the Peelle Company, a manufacturer and installer of passenger and freight elevator doors. Hank Peelle is current Chair of the ASME Standards Committee and a member of the Hoistway, Outside Emergency Elevator, and the Task Group on EN81-A17 Alignment. Hank has been involved with A17 since 1982 and has served on the Private Residence Elevator, LULA, Dumbwaiter and Automatic Transfer Device committees and on the Task Group on Total Door Protection. Hank has a Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Bucknell University, an MBA from the University of North Carolina – Charlotte, and a Doctorate in Management from the University of Phoenix.

Peter Susca, Founder, OpX Safety



Mr. Susca is the founder of OpX Safety and brings over thirty years of environment, health & safety, management systems development/ assessment, fatality prevention, process improvement and executive business leadership experience to the firm. Before founding OpX Safety, he spent 14 years in the EH&S consulting field as Senior Vice President at Loureiro Engineering Associates and Vice President of Health & Safety Operations for Allied Resources Corporation. Prior to his entry into consulting, he served as Director of EH&S for Otis Elevator's European Area, Manager of World-wide EH&S Assurance Programs for United Technologies Corporation and Sr. EH&S Engineer for Hamilton Standard. He also spent 7 years teaching for the Connecticut and National Fire Academy and 20 years in the volunteer fire service retiring in 2000 as a Chief Officer. Mr. Susca holds a B.A. in Physics from Central Connecticut State University and a M.S. in Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. His speaking experience includes; ASSE NEA PDC 2010, 2012-2016 (Keynote), 2014 & 2015, ORC, MAPI, Maine Safety Conference, and numerous corporate EH&S conferences (e.g., United Technologies Corporation, Barnes Group, U. S. Steel, ArcelorMittal, RGIS and Raytheon).

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

SPEAKER BIOS

Frank Christensen, President, International Union of Elevator Contractors



Frank J. Christensen became general president of the International Union of Elevator Constructors (IUEC) on September 11, 2012, upon unanimous election by the IUEC's General Executive Board. At the IUEC's Convention held July 2016 he was re-elected for another 5-year term. He was appointed vice president of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO in December 2012. President Christensen joined the International Union of Elevator Constructors as a member of Local 2, Chicago, IL, in 1979, upon high school graduation. After gaining 15 years of solid work experience in all aspects of the trade, Frank sought elected office within Local 2 and held numerous officer positions at the local level. Brother Christensen was the longest serving business manager in the more than 100-year history of Local 2, an honor that still stands today. A staunch believer in the power of education, Brother Christensen has participated in continuing education at Chicago-Kent College of Law, at the George Meany National Labor College, through the Department of Labor and OSHA and via the IUEC's National Elevator Industry Educational Program (NEIEP).

Stephen Berney, Draka Industries



Stephen Berney is a Health, Safety and Environmental Engineer for Draka Elevator Products and supports the NA production and distribution centers across the US. Stephen has been with Draka since 2015 and has held senior EHS career positions in Automotive, Corrugated, Printing and semiconductor manufacturing. Stephen received his degree in Occupational Health and Safety from Trinidad State College and has over 20 years of EHS experience.

Rene Karavas, Training Coordinator, Technical Safety Standards Authority



Graduated from Electro-Mechanical Engineering Technologist program and joined the Elevating & Amusement Devices Branch of the government of Ontario in 1990, where he held the positions of inspector and Duty Manager. Rene joined TSSA as an inspector and since has held the positions of Field Supervisor and Training Manager. He holds - Certified Elevator Inspector and Supervisor designations from NAESA International.

Ted Gervais, Field Supervisor, Technical Safety Standards Authority



Worked for Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario as an elevator mechanic. Licensed electrician for the Province of Ontario. Ted joined TSSA as an inspector in 2004 and currently hold the position of Field Supervisor. He holds – Certified Elevator Inspector and Supervisor designations from NAESA International.

Rob Merlo, President, Garden State Elevator Industries



A licensed insurance agent for over 25 years, Rob was introduced to the elevator industry back in 1989 and took his Risk Management skills and put them to work. Rob founded Garden State Elevator Industries in 1992 which operates in the New York & New Jersey area. Rob is a Past President of the National Association of Elevator Contractors and has served as Chairman of the NAEC Safety Committee for the past 17 years. Rob has also served on the NEII Safety Committee for over 15 years. In addition to his dedication to safety for field employees, Rob has served as a Board of Regent and a Past Chairman of the Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation in an effort to promote safety to the general public. Rob lives in Secaucus, N.J. with his wife Sherri.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

SPEAKER BIOS

Ray Downs, Senior Vice President, TEI Group



Ray Downs is a TEI Group Senior Vice President with over three decades of experience in Environmental Health and Safety, Human Resources and Project Management. He has worked for Tishman Construction Corporation, an AECOM Company, Otis Elevator Company, a Division of United Technologies, Schlumberger Industries and General Motors. He has designed, developed and directed the implementation of Management System Programs on the national, area and regional level for both union and non-union workforces. He has served on corporate and international staffs in areas as diverse as environmental health and safety, project management, corporate auditing, training and development, budgeting, regulatory compliance and union negotiations.

Bob Rodriguez, Associate Director of EHS, Otis Western Region



Bob is the Associate Director of Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) Western Region for Otis Elevator Company. Bob has over 29 years of elevator experience with the last 16 years in EH&S. In his current role, he is responsible for all facets of EH&S including construction, service, repair and modernization. As part of his duties, for the past 13 years, he has conducted fatality prevention audits globally as a World Headquarters team leader. He participates in the safety program policy development and implementation for Otis North America. He is an OSHA authorized trainer and holds an AHERA contractor's certification. Bob holds his bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Arizona.

Kevin Dix, Director of EHS, Otis North America



Kevin is the Director of Environmental, Health and Safety (EHS) for North America for Otis Elevator Company. Kevin has over 14 years of EH&S experience across a variety of industries including aerospace, renewable energy, consulting and pharmaceutical. In his current role, he is responsible for leading a team of experienced safety professionals to develop best in class EHS programs and solutions that are aimed at keeping employees safe. The Otis safety team is focused on a variety of risk reduction and injury prevention initiatives that are designed to help ensure all Otis employees return home safely, every day. Kevin holds his bachelor's degree in Occupational Health Science from Purdue University and a master's degree in Management from Boston University. He currently resides in the Chicagoland area with his family.

Aled Jones, EHS Director, KONE Canada



With 26 years in the elevator and escalator industry, Aled has spent the last 11 years as an Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) leader with experience across all business lines of the industry. He is currently the EHS Director for KONE Canada. His work experience includes projects that span the entire spectrum of clients from Nuclear Submarine bases, Government offices, sky scrapers and stadiums to ships and residential properties. His experience in the industry has also allowed him to work for multiple companies including Express lift company, Otis and Schindler. He joined KONE Great Britain in 2004 and worked on projects such as ISO14001, various fall prevention programs, and KONE's Serious Injury and Fatality Prevention program. Aled moved to Canada in 2010, and lives in Toronto with his family. He is a husband and father of a daughter and son.

Corey Ward, Vice President, EHS, KONE Americas



Corey Ward is the Vice President of Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) for KONE Americas. In this role, he is responsible for developing and implementing the EHS program while driving safety compliance across the United States, Canada, and Mexico. As a Certified Safety Professional, Corey has over 15 years of experience through progressive leadership roles in safety with knowledge of Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and Department of Transportation (DOT) regulations. Prior to joining KONE, Corey worked for Clark Construction Group as a safety director for

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

SPEAKER BIOS

the company's western region. In this position, he led EHS strategy and was directly in charge of construction safety operations across four states, as well as supervising 14 safety managers. Earlier in his career with Clark Construction Group, Corey held the positions of senior safety manager, safety manager, and safety coordinator. Corey began his career as a safety analyst for ATL International, where he served as a consultant and helped produce OSHA and EPA regulation materials for federal agencies. Corey currently serves as the chair of the National Elevator Industry, Inc. Field Employee Safety Committee and was appointed to this industry trade organization in the fall of 2014. Corey holds his bachelor's degree in environmental health and safety from Bowling Green State University and received his master's in business administration from Pepperdine University. He currently resides in Naperville, IL. with his family.

John Goodpaster, Schindler



John Goodpaster has been a safety professional for 14 years with a lot of experience in construction, manufacturing, and fabrication. He is a Certified Safety Professional and currently is the Areas Safety and Health Manager for Schindler Elevator for the last 6 years. As a graduate of the United States Naval Academy with a BS in Engineering, he retired as a Commander from the US Navy after 20 years of service. John also has a Masters of Education from the University of Oklahoma focusing on Adult and Higher Education. John lives in Dallas, Texas with his family. He is a husband and father of four boys. In his spare time, he volunteers for Scouting and youth athletics.

Tom Sybert, Chairman, Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation



Tom Sybert is the current Chairman of the Elevator Escalator Safety Foundation and has been an active board and committee member since 2005. As a father of three boys he understands the need to help educate children and parents how to safely ride our industries equipment. In addition to helping the EESF meet its goals and objectives Tom also volunteers his time with other industry organizations including Elevator U, The Chicago Elevator Association and the Elevator Riders Riding Club and presents at NAESAi and other industry events. For fun Tom hosts and produces the Elevator Radio Show which is a weekly audio/video podcast dedicated to news as it relates to our industry. When not volunteering his time, Tom is busy running one of the oldest elevator manufacturing companies in the United States, C.J. Anderson & Company.

William Seymour, President, Seymour Technologies LLC



Bill Seymour is an engineering graduate from Limerick Institute of Technology, Ireland. He was a co-founder of Janus elevator products and after the acquisition of Janus by the UK based public company, Halma PLC, went on to build Halma's global elevator and automatic door components division. In his role as a divisional chief executive Bill was responsible for companies such as Memco, TL Jones, E-Motive Display, Electronic microsystems, Monitor Controls, Janus and BEA Sensors. Post Halma, Bill was responsible for the operations of Sematic USA/Tyler elevator before launching his own Connecticut based sales and consulting business, Seymour Technologies LLC in 2013.

Robert Kaspersma, BSc., Liftinstituut



Robert Kaspersma has over 20 years of experience with the European Directives and European Standards, as well as 16 years of experience with the ISO Standards, 9 years of experience with ASME Standards, and 5 years with Occupational Health and Safety Regulations. He is a member of multiple ASME committees and won the Liftinstituut Innovation Award for introducing the Elevator and Escalator Safety Awareness week in the Netherlands. He currently examines lifts, machines and safety components based on both European and American regulations. He also is a trainer in risk assessment, lift safety, and accessibility of buildings.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

THANK YOU!

George Gibson, President, George W. Gibson & Associates



George Gibson at home in Arizona has been Chairman of the Advisory Board since 1989, and Advisor to the NAESA International Board of Certification since 1986. Following retirement from Otis Elevator Company in January 1993, he formed George W. Gibson & Associates, Inc., an Elevator Consulting firm. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME). He is Chairman Emeritus of the A17 Mechanical Design Committee (30 years as Chairman), Chairman Emeritus of the A17 International Standards Committee (26 years as Chairman), Chairman Emeritus of the A17 Earthquake Safety Committee (25 years as Chairman), Past-Chairman of the A17 Ad Hoc Committee on Door Protection, Chairman of the A17 Ad Hoc Committee on Elevator Stopping, and a founding Member of the ASME QEI Standards Committee.

George has been one of the main drivers working behind the scenes for the success of the Elevator Industry Safety Summit. George, all of us at NAESA thank you for your efforts!

Emerald McGehee, Certification Program Coordinator, NAESA International



Emerald is based at NAESA Headquarters in Mankato, Minnesota and is the Assistant Executive Director and Certification Program Administrator. She began working for NAESA in 2010.

Felicity Wilkinson, Education Program Administrator, NAESA International



Felicity is based in Portland, Oregon and is the NAESA Education Program Administrator and Editor of the NAESA PROGRESS Newsletter. She began working for NAESA in 2008. After a break in 2014, she returned in February of 2016.

I would like to personally thank Felicity and Emerald for working tirelessly to put the logistics of the Elevator Industry Safety Summit together to make this important safety event a success. Thank you both very much!

-Bob Shepherd

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ • May 21-23, 2017

IT'S ALL ABOUT SAFETY

I'd like to talk to you for a few minutes about safety,
Working safe is something that we all should
endeavor to do,
We've had some pretty tragic accidents here lately,
And I don't want anything happening to you.
Working safely should become second nature,
It's too important and I hope you would agree,
Working safe isn't something you can do later,
Not if you want to get home to your family.

Let me tell you all something about safety,
It's not just a box that you check upon a form,
It's not something that you come by accidentally,
It's not the exception I tell you, it's the norm.
It's not something that you can use when it's easy,
It's not something that you can ever put away,
Safety is something all our lives depend upon,
And we all need to work safely each day.

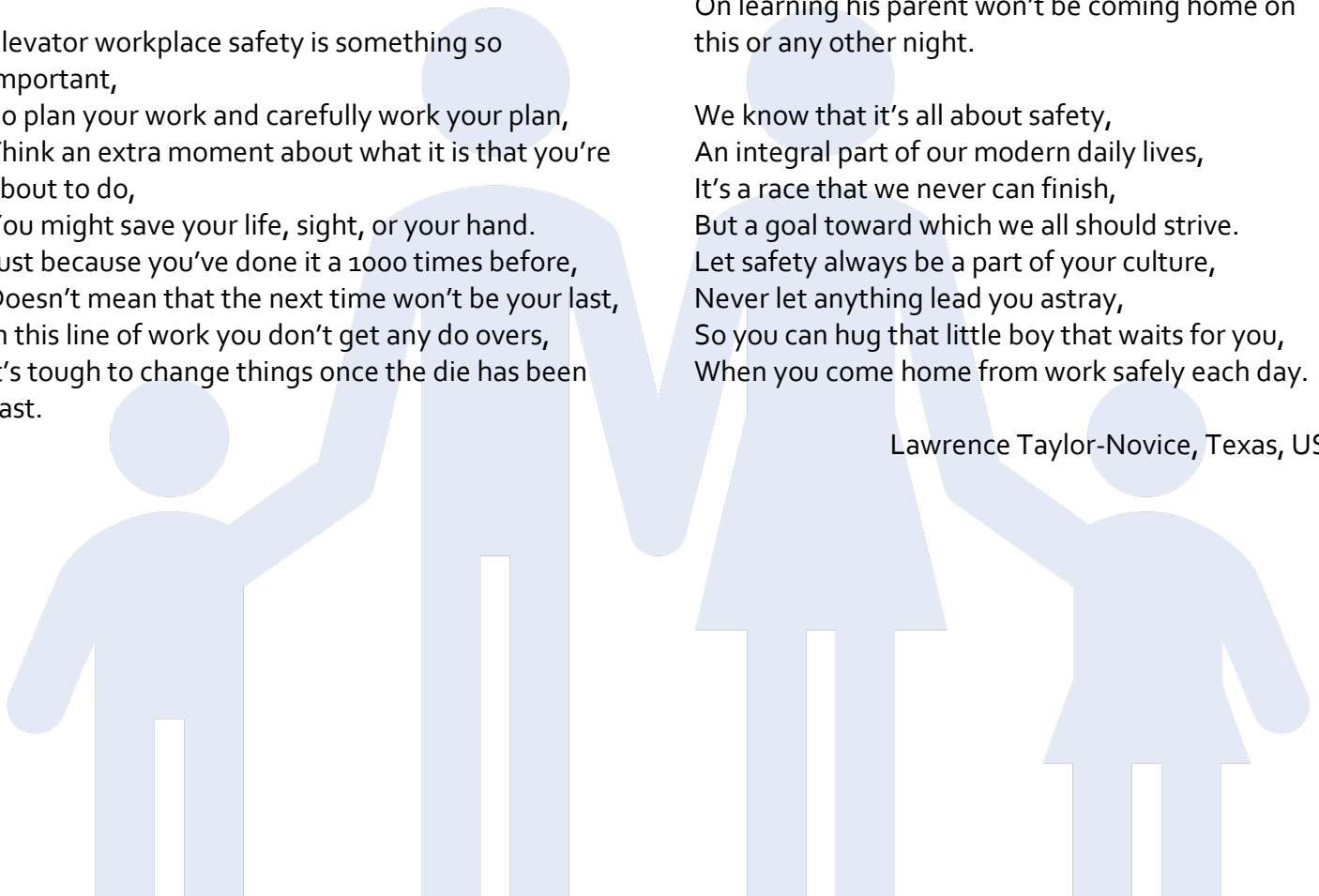
Elevator workplace safety is something so
important,
So plan your work and carefully work your plan,
Think an extra moment about what it is that you're
about to do,
You might save your life, sight, or your hand.
Just because you've done it a 1000 times before,
Doesn't mean that the next time won't be your last,
In this line of work you don't get any do overs,
It's tough to change things once the die has been
cast.

Never take your personal safety for granted,
Things can change in the blink of an eye,
If you're not careful and watch what you're doing,
You might just be the next constructor to die.
Always be aware of your surroundings,
Think twice before you move once and you'll find,
If there's any doubt that it's safe then just don't do it,
And give your family some needed peace of mind.

Don't force me to go and see your loved ones,
Walk up the steps and knock on your door,
When your spouse opens it and sees me there
crying,
They'll know in a flash just what the reason is for.
What do I tell them why and how that it happened,
What words of mine could ever hope to make right,
The hurt that little boy standing there in the
doorway must feel,
On learning his parent won't be coming home on
this or any other night.


We know that it's all about safety,
An integral part of our modern daily lives,
It's a race that we never can finish,
But a goal toward which we all should strive.
Let safety always be a part of your culture,
Never let anything lead you astray,
So you can hug that little boy that waits for you,
When you come home from work safely each day.


Lawrence Taylor-Novice, Texas, USA



Thanks to Tom Whittenberger for digging up this old poster!

ELEVATOR RULES

Ring bell  and be sure all is clear before starting car.

Stand back and keep feet inside  edge of car.


Keep gates closed. 

Lock operating rope while loading  and unloading.

Report any part of equipment that is unsafe. 

Overloaded  or overfilled cars are dangerous.

Be sure nothing projects  over edge of platform.

Getting on  or off car while it is in motion is dangerous.

Horseplay while on elevator invites  trouble.

Leaning over gates  has caused many accidents.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

THE UP MAN

By Anthony Caporale

Growing up in Manhattan, I was privileged to live in a pre-war high-rise that boasted, among many anachronistic nods to its storied past, an elevator attendant named Bob.

I didn't know that was his name until I was old enough to read the brass tag he wore as part of his spotless uniform, because an even more striking piece of that uniform had more firmly established another moniker. In deference to Bob's rimless, red chapeau – conspicuous in an era when no one wore hats, much less inside and in elevators – everyone called him Cap. Everyone, that is, except me. To me he was the Up Man.

While it's true that Cap was equally proficient with descents, I could never understand why anyone would need his help for that. Elevator panels are arranged in the same way as buildings, with lower- floor buttons on the bottom and higher-floor buttons on top. I could press the ground floor button from just about the day I could walk, but our lofty fifth floor was out of my reach without the Up Man.

So I never questioned Cap's presence. He was clearly there to help children go Up.

The Up Man was ageless, or so it seemed to me as a child, when people were simply “grownups” or “kids” and twenty-five may as well have been eighty. But I remember even as I got older thinking that he could have been fifty or he could have been seventy, and at that point I knew the difference.

Receding, close-cropped black hair with a touch of grey and a bald spot around back, though neither ever seemed to claim new territory. Slim and average height, he wore black-framed glasses that magnified the smile which seemed to project more from his eyes than anything else. The Up Man was always there, and that's all that really mattered.

Everyone loved Cap, though the assessment-paying tenants knew they didn't need him to get to their apartments. He pushed buttons for them all, whether they needed it or not. Everyone, again, except me.

I loved pressing the buttons. Still do, for some reason. Maybe it's the certainty, in an uncertain world, of having set something in motion that you know will eventually come to pass. Maybe it's the resulting sensation of the cab starting to lift, when the floor presses into the bottom of your feet and it feels like your shoes magically get heavier for a moment. Or maybe I just like the lights. Anyway, the Up Man always let me press the buttons, or at least encouraged me to try.

"Where to, Little Mister?" he would ask, with the fidelity of a Swiss timepiece. Decades later, I often address my son the same way, remembering how important it made me feel.

"Fifth floor," I would reply, though he knew the location of every tenant's apartment, often before they moved in, and I'd never seen him get it wrong. If there were other people in the cab, he would dutifully press five and wait for my approving nod. But if it was just Nanny and me, he would give me the approving nod and let me reach for the button.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

THE UP MAN

I'd get as close to the panel as I could, stand on my tiptoes, and stretch my right hand into the air. For years, that fifth-floor button might have been perched atop Mount Olympus for all the likelihood it would fall within my grasp. But he cheered me on nevertheless.

"A bit more, Little Mister, almost there!" he'd say. "No jumping, though – that's bad form." And when I would inevitably fail, he'd just smile and answer my disappointment with, "That's okay, we'll try again tomorrow." Then he'd press five and I'd feel my shoes get heavy as we started to rise.

I knew the button for my floor before I could decipher the "5" stamped on it because I'd seen it pressed so many times, but the rest of the panel seemed like a bewildering array of stars that had been captured and hung vertically from the cab wall. I wasn't able to count yet, so all the buttons looked the same to me and I couldn't imagine how anyone could find the right one in this overwhelming display. I imagined the Up Man must have been the only person who knew which button would bring the elevator to which floor.

Right at the very top and right at the very bottom, though, were two buttons that stood out. While all the rest were circles of the exact same size, these were long bars that looked like two buttons had been placed side-by-side and filled in between. I knew the one on the bottom took me to the rest of the world and all the wonders that entailed, so I assumed the one on top led to a place of similar magic.

When I began to learn the alphabet, I realized that both the top and bottom buttons were inscribed with letters instead of numbers. I didn't know what they meant any more than I knew the Up Man's nametag said Bob, but I knew both the nametag and the top button started with a "B" so I concluded he lived on that floor. After all, BOB and BAR looked suspiciously similar to me, and since the nightclub didn't open until long after I was safely home I never heard anyone ask for the top button to be pressed. But tantalizing as was the thought of seeing where the Up Man lived, the top button rested in the land of giants and I first had to conquer floor five.

I remember the day I felt the gap between the button and its trim, flat metal giving way to curved plastic, and I held my breath as I strained as far upward as possible. I couldn't quite get enough leverage to depress it though, and my heart sank along with my arm as I heard Cap's "That's okay, we'll try again tomorrow."

One day not long after, I reached for number five and felt my shoes get heavy. I think the Up Man was more excited than me. "You did it, Little Mister!" he cried, and gathered both me and Nanny up in his arms for a hug that lasted the entire ride. That day would have been stamped into my brain even if I hadn't arrived at my apartment to find my Father home early and sitting on the couch with my Mother.

"You're going to have a little brother or a sister!" she told me, and I think I was happy, though I know I wasn't about moving to the twenty-ninth floor so we could have an apartment with a nursery.

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

THE UP MAN

As I spent the next several years reaching for button twenty-nine, I gained some measure of independence and on rainy days was given the run of the building with the promise that I wouldn't go outside. Cap was, of course, in on this provided the lift traffic wasn't too heavy, and kept a keen eye on me as I explored other floors.

Our usual exchange altered a bit: he would still open with "Where to, Little Mister?" but then I'd query, "Anywhere?" to see if the game was on that day. "Wherever you can reach, you can go," he'd reply when it was. "No jumping, though – that's bad form."

The elevator panel rows were each three buttons long, so it took me quite a while to work my way from five to twenty-nine, and I had plenty to explore in between. I would look forward to rainy days, spent alternately alone walking the old building's limitless corridors and with Cap in the snug security of the elevator cab. "Wherever you can reach you can go," was my only limitation and my driving motivation. Because the place I really wanted to go, sitting impossibly high atop the last row of 42-43-44, seemed forever out of my reach.

Perhaps this is why I was drawn to the restaurant industry. Once I could read, I learned that BAR was a place for grownups at nighttime, and as my bedtime grew later and I began to encounter guests coming down from the 45th floor it seemed as though there might be magic there after all. They were always laughing, and hugging, and they were usually dressed in the most wonderful clothes. Their perfumes and colognes filled the small lift with scents that promised flowers, forests, oceans, and every exotic place in the world. I was enchanted, and all the more because neither of my parents drank or ever went anyplace like BAR so it fell completely out of my realm of experience. It was a land of make-believe sitting only six button rows above my head, and though I would eventually reach for number 29 and feel my shoes get heavy, we moved to a house in the suburbs just before I was able to put my fingertips on BAR.

Looking back, I can't imagine it's coincidence that when I needed employment during college I seized the opportunity to work at a bar and finally uncover the secrets that had been withheld from me during my explorations with the Up Man. I took to the environment immediately, and abandoning my engineering degree worked my way through management to ultimately buy a restaurant that has since flourished into one of the largest foodservice groups in New York City.

I've lost track of the number of times during my career that I heard the Up Man's voice in my head at a crucial turning point: "Wherever you can reach you can go." Even when my reach exceeded my grasp (had I jumped?) the lessons learned were often more valuable than the success would have been. So when, during a recent round of expansion, the chance to purchase the lounge on the 45th floor of my childhood building came across my desk, I suppose I could have taken longer to approve the deal.

We re-opened a few weeks ago, after completely updating the space in both décor and concept. It is now family-friendly, as all successful restaurants must be today, though perhaps a bit on the upscale side, as I

Elevator Industry Safety Summit

Phoenix, AZ ◦ May 21-23, 2017

THE UP MAN

prefer. I took my son there this afternoon (we're now open for lunch), and though I'd been in that elevator many times before during the renovation, standing there with him at nearly the age I was when my family moved away, and me likely near the same age as the Up Man, the memories were overpowering.

"Where to, Little Mister?" I asked on a whim as we entered the cab. He looked up at the forest of numbers climbing way over his head like stars and hesitated a moment, then, "Anywhere?"

"Wherever you can reach, you can go," I replied. "No jumping, though – that's bad form."

I saw his eyes drawn to those three letters at the very top, as familiar to him as they were mysterious to me. He got as close to the panel as he could, stood on his tiptoes, and stretched his right hand into the air.

Then I felt my shoes get heavy as we started to rise.

For my Father and Up Man.



