

Aging Elevators Create Hazards: Insight from Godwin Elevators

Many commercial property owners wonder whether the elevator should be replaced or modernization is a better option. The answer often lies somewhere in between.

RALEIGH, NC, UNITED STATES, October 1, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- As the infrastructure in commercial buildings ages, elevators can often be overlooked. While they remain critical for individuals' daily movement, an aging elevator system poses a variety of concerns that extend beyond simple wear and tear. With the rapid pace of technological advancements, elevators older than 15 years may exhibit outdated aesthetics, performance inefficiencies, and safety concerns, making modernization a necessary and cost-effective option.

Although the risk of catastrophic elevator failure remains exceedingly rare, other concerns arise with aging systems, particularly those over a decade and a half old. Outdated aesthetics, such as worn panels and faded lighting, can contribute to a less-than-ideal rider experience. More pressing are the potential safety hazards like uneven leveling at stops, which increases the likelihood of trips or falls. These issues may be subtle, but they accumulate over time and can diminish an elevator system's performance and safety.

Commercial Venues Where [Elevator Modernization](#) is Crucial

Facilities that handle significant foot traffic—hotels, office buildings, hospitals, and



Godwin Elevator Interior



Godwin Elevator Logo

universities—rely heavily on the efficiency and safety of their elevators. In these settings, the consequences of outdated systems become magnified. Elevators serve not just as means of transportation but as reflections of the buildings themselves. A modernized system improves rider comfort while ensuring updated safety regulations and standards compliance. Furthermore, the aesthetics of an elevator, though seemingly secondary, can influence perceptions, especially in venues like hotels and hospitals, where every detail contributes to the overall user experience.

In older buildings, especially those constructed decades ago, outdated elevators may struggle to meet current safety and accessibility standards. This can become a pressing issue for businesses, with safety inspections increasingly focusing on ADA compliance and emergency preparedness.

Ensuring elevators are fully operational is non-negotiable for venues like medical facilities, where the safe and timely transportation of patients is essential. A malfunction or trip hazard in these settings could lead to severe consequences. Likewise, maintaining up-to-date, efficient elevators in office complexes and hotels is vital to prevent costly downtime or disruptions.

Modernization: A Cost-Saving, Long-Term Solution

Elevator modernization, as opposed to total replacement, offers a comprehensive solution to addressing the issues of aging systems. Through modernization, critical components are upgraded with the latest technology, ensuring improved performance, enhanced safety, and greater reliability. This process, which extends the operational lifespan of an elevator by 20 to 25 years, also reduces the need for frequent, costly repairs, resulting in significant long-term savings.

Key safety features like door mechanisms, control panels, and leveling systems are updated during modernization. These upgrades ensure smoother operation, reducing the risk of malfunctions or accidents. This investment in safety and reliability is invaluable for commercial buildings with high daily ridership.

Beyond mechanical improvements, modernization also breathes new life into an elevator's aesthetics. Updated styles, colors, and materials can make the journey a more pleasant experience for riders, reinforcing a sense of professionalism and care in any building. By enhancing visual appeal and operational performance, modernization is a wise investment for any business looking to preserve its assets and prioritize user safety.

Safety Above All

Elevator modernization directly addresses potential hazards that arise from outdated systems. Older elevators often suffer from tripping hazards due to misleveling, causing passengers to trip as they step into or out of the cab. Additionally, dim or flickering lighting, slow or jerky

movements, and unreliable door operations are all signs of an aging system. These issues, while inconvenient or aesthetically unpleasing, could lead to more serious safety concerns over time.

Modernization helps prevent these hazards by upgrading components to the latest standards. A reliable, modern elevator system creates a safer and more welcoming environment, providing peace of mind to building managers and patrons alike.

Why Choose Modernization Over Replacement?

Many commercial property owners wonder whether the elevator should be replaced or whether modernization is a better option. The answer often lies in the financial and operational benefits modernization provides. Complete replacement is far more expensive and requires significantly more downtime, disrupting business operations. On the other hand, modernization keeps costs manageable while ensuring that vital improvements are made quickly and efficiently.

Godwin Elevator Company, with decades of experience in the industry, specializes in delivering tailored modernization solutions. The company uses advanced technology and expert technicians to ensure that every modernization project meets its clients' operational needs and aesthetic goals. These upgrades guarantee smooth, safe, and reliable performance, benefiting building owners and riders alike.

About Godwin Elevator

[Godwin Elevator Company, Inc.](#) is a family-owned and operated business in Raleigh, NC. Founded in 1982 by its current president, James A. Godwin, the company has grown over the past 35 years to be recognized as one of the most respected and knowledgeable elevator contractors in North Carolina. As a Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) verified through the Department of Veterans Affairs and a member of the National Association of Elevator Contractors (NAEC), Godwin Elevator is committed to providing top-tier service and ensuring that elevators remain safe, efficient, and visually appealing for years to come.

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