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Focus on Evolving Roles &
Linkages Redefining VT

HUMANIZING THE HUMBLE ELEVATOR

In this Readers' Platform, your author talks about VT entering a new era of integration, access and safety.

by Malini Saba

images by Gagandeep Kaur

Elevators are important to the exciting evolution occurring in the field of vertical transportation (VT). The way we move about in structures is evolving as technology develops and buildings get taller. Without going too far into jargon, this article examines the changes in connections and functions within VT, with an emphasis on the growing significance of safety, integration and access.

Integration: Elevators Taking Part in the Smart Building Event

Elevators and smart buildings: Consider elevators as important participants in the smart building game rather than merely as moving boxes. They are no longer isolated entities but are instead growing close friends with security systems, energy management and other technologies.



Residential and office buildings in the National Capital Region



◊ Escalators at a mall in the National Capital Region



◊ High rises in South Mumbai



◊ Office building elevator lobby in Mumbai's western suburbs



They work together to make our lives easier, sharing stories as if they were at a party.

Energy management and elevators - a greener partnership: Conversations between energy management systems and elevators are more than casual conversations. They're collaborating aggressively to improve the environmental friendliness of buildings. Elevators help save energy and, consequently, contribute to a greener future by regulating when and how they work.

The sync dance, featuring HVAC and lighting systems: Now elevators move in time with the heating, ventilation, air conditioning (HVAC) and lighting fixtures. Not only are they shifting in and out, but they are also swaying in time with our everyday routines. In addition to increasing a building's energy efficiency, this synchronized dance also generates a cozy and enjoyable ambiance.

Vertical transit centers - elevators linking communities: Elevators are evolving into communal hubs in busy cities. VT hubs are places where elevators extend their arms to connect to other forms of transportation, forming a web of interconnectedness. It feels like you can travel more easily now that your favorite elevator is a member of a larger transportation family.

Access: Elevators Provide Access to Everyone

Everyone has access to elevators: Elevators were originally used to move passengers vertically. The focus right now is on ensuring that elevators are available to all people, regardless of their physical capabilities. Making sure that everyone can get on the ride isn't just about riding up and down.

Accepting diversity - inclusive environments for elevators: Beyond only being physically accessible, elevators are essential to the creation of inclusive environments. Elevators are being designed into homes, workplaces and public spaces, so they mix in perfectly with ramps and stairs. It's important to create areas that are welcoming to all people rather than just pushing boundaries.

Continued



A brief elevator experience – advantages for everyone:

Elevators are becoming more considerate with features like tactile indicators, audio signals and accessible control panels. These thoughtful touches make using the elevator enjoyable even for those who have visual or auditory limitations.

Elevators that recognize your movement: Elevators are becoming more and more skilled at predicting your movements, thanks to AI and other cutting-edge technologies. They deliver you a personalized experience even before you press a button because they anticipate your requirements and preferences. It’s like having your own magical, personal elevator that knows you.

Safety: Elevators Provide Safety With a Kind Touch

Safety in the elevator - a top priority, not a buzzkill:

Although safety has always been important, elevators are prioritizing it without taking away from other features. They are guardians that make sure your travel is safe and easy, especially as buildings get taller.

The safety BFFs of elevators - sensors and alarms: Cool safety elements like sensors and alerts are being adopted by elevators. These guardians keep an eye on the elevator’s condition to make sure it’s always in excellent shape. Before any hiccup happens, they ring the alarm if something doesn’t seem right.

Technological entry by elevators – identifying your familiar face: Elevators are embracing high-tech security systems in place of conventional keys. Touchless interfaces and biometric authentication are standardizing and ensuring that only authorized individuals can access systems. It’s similar to having an amiable bouncer who makes sure that nobody except your nice face is let inside.

The Future Scene: Elevators Opening Doors to a More Companionable Future

Technology trends – more user-friendly features for elevators: Elevators will keep getting friendlier in the future. Anticipate deeper understanding, individualized experiences and perhaps even a few jokes from them. Elevators will become companions on your everyday journey in addition to being a means of transportation once they are integrated with emerging technologies.

Access – elevators become the standard for inclusivity: Access is a voyage into the future, not merely an emphasis on the present. Elevators will persist in promoting inclusivity, becoming the standard instead of the exception. Anticipate even more user-friendly user interfaces and customized experiences, transforming elevators into a welcoming environment for everybody.

Safety – elevators are your reliable angels of protection: Safety is a continuous commitment rather than a one-time event. As your dependable guardian angels, elevators will continue to evolve to keep you safe and comfortable on your journey. Touchless and biometric technologies will become ingrained, offering security and comfort.

Conclusion

Elevators are becoming conductors in the vast symphony of urban living, arranging a smooth and welcoming experience for everyone. Their narrative integration with smart buildings, their unwavering commitment to safety and their dedication to accessibility represent a paradigm leap in our understanding of VT. Elevators are the silent guardians that not only carry us around in the future but also improve our quality of life on a daily basis. The amiable visages of these dynamic marvels will usher in an era where buildings serve as dynamic centers of safety, accessibility and connectivity rather than only being physical constructions. Enter the elevator with excitement because it is more than just a box: rather, it is a tool for experiences that may take the human journey to new heights.

Dr. Malini Saba is an avid writer and accomplished researcher, a psychologist and single mother. Having achieved notable success in the corporate world, Saba now directs her focus towards philanthropic activities close to her heart. Her philanthropic endeavors have made a profound impact on millions of underserved women and children in South and Southeast Asia, South America, Africa, and the U.S.



As a global advocate for women and girls, she remains dedicated to improving access to essential services for women and children and impacting global policies. She focuses on providing access to nutrition, basic healthcare, education, art and culture, aiming to break the cycle of poverty and promote human rights awareness. Driven by her passion, she collaborates with eminent partners to amplify the impact of her philanthropic efforts. Additionally, Saba supports working women in various professions and serves as a resource hub for understanding the challenges they face in the workforce. Her ongoing research explores leadership-driven interventions to create a positive impact on society at all levels.

Saba’s journey from a modest background instilled a strong work ethic and compassion for the less fortunate. She has received numerous accolades for her exceptional achievements, contributions, and philanthropy. Despite her achievements, she maintains a humble and private nature. She also enjoys creating quick and easy recipes that add a delightful twist to traditional South and Southeast Asian dishes.

