ASME A17.8-2021/CSA B44.8:21
National Standard of Canada
American National Standard

Standard for wind turbine tower elevators

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ASME A17.8-2021/CSA B44.8:21
December 2021

Title: *Standard for wind turbine tower elevators*

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Published in December 2021 by CSA Group
A not-for-profit private sector organization
178 Rexdale Boulevard, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M9W 1R3
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Date of Issuance: January 28, 2022

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ISBN 978-0-7918-7439-4

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Published in December 2021 by CSA Group
A not-for-profit private sector organization
178 Rexdale Boulevard
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M9W 1R3
www.csagroup.org

ISBN 978-1-4883-3920-2

ICS 53.020.01

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(ED) # *Foreword*

Equipment covered by this standard was originally codified and incorporated into ASME A17.1-2013/ CSA B44-13, Section 5.11, in October 2013. The first edition of this Standard was published in November 2016 and prepared by The American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), Wind Turbine Tower Elevator Committee with the assistance of representatives of a number of interests including manufacturers, certifying organizations, regulatory bodies, and technical consultants from North America and Europe.

The work to develop this Standard originated when the A17 Standards Committee was presented information on the numbers of these elevators already installed and the estimate of projected number of elevators to be constructed in North America.

The A17 Standards Committee voted that these elevators were under the Scope of ASME A17.1/CSA B44, Safety Code for Elevators and Escalators and in January 2009, assigned the project of developing language to the Special Purpose Personnel Elevator (SPPE) Committee. The SPPE Committee created a Project Team consisting of A17/B44 representatives, technical advisors from the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA), specialists in the design of these types of elevators, manufacturers from Denmark, Belgium, Spain, and Canada, and two members from Accredited Elevator/Escalator Certifying Organizations (AECOs) from the Netherlands and the United States.

The first Project Team meeting was held in March 2009. A number of meetings of the Team were held during the next three years, using the Special Purpose Personnel Elevator language, Section 5.7, as a basis for developing Wind Turbine Elevator Code language. The Team performed hazard assessment to establish equivalent levels of safety considering the very unique environment these elevators are installed where current ASME A17.1/CSA B44 codes do not address specific circumstances and structural requirements. In 2012, the Project Team was converted to a full Working Committee of A17, and the ASME A17.1/CSA B44, Section 5.11 was completed, approved by ANSI, and published as an American National Standard, ASME A17.1-2013/CSA B44-13. In 2013, the A17 Standards Committee approved the conversion of Section 5.11 into ASME A17.8/CSA B44.8 to provide a global code to international manufacturers in an effort to harmonize worldwide construction, installation, operation, testing, inspection, maintenance, alteration, and repair requirements.

ASME A17.8-2016/CSA B44.8-16 was approved as an American National Standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) on January 8, 2016.

The second edition of ASME A17.8-2021/CSA B44.8:21 includes revisions listed in the summary of changes section. This edition adds requirements for engineering tests, type tests, and certifications; maintenance, repair, replacements, testing, and alterations; as well as suspension means and their connections. These additions were to create a document not dependent on ASME A17.1/CSA B44, but separate their unique requirements into a separate standard. This 2021 edition is also being changed from periodic maintenance to a five-year cycle continuous maintenance publication. This Standard was approved as an American National Standard by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) on October 27, 2021.