

Common Elevator Myths

Debunked

We're all guilty of it — waiting for an elevator to arrive, and pushing the call button over and over in hopes the elevator car will arrive faster. Unfortunately, pressing the call button more than once does not affect the elevator's speed of arrival. This is just one of many common elevator myths that are widely misunderstood by elevator passengers.

To help raise awareness of elevator safety and quality, Renown Electric has gathered some of the most common elevator misconceptions and revealed the truth behind each. Test your elevator knowledge by reviewing the infographic below.

Myth:

vs.

Fact:

Myth:

Pushing the call button will make the elevator come faster.



Fact:

Once the call button is pressed, the call is registered by the elevator controller. Pressing the call button again does nothing. However, pressing the "Door Close" button once inside the car will trigger the doors to close sooner.

Myth:

If a cable snaps from too much weight, elevators can fall down the shaft.

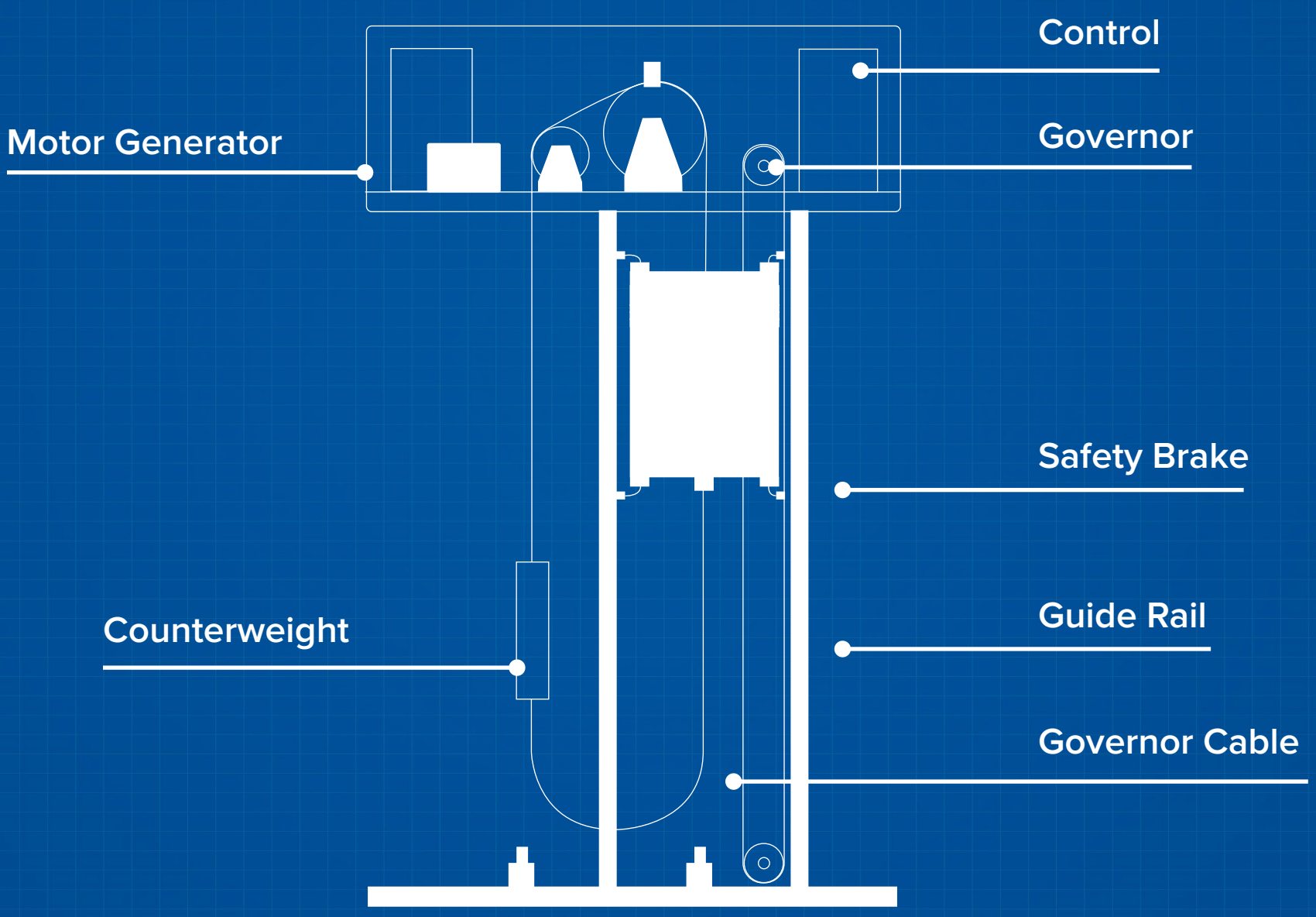


Fact:

Elevators are not held up by a single cable, but by **4 to 10** of them.

Each steel cable on its own can support more weight than a fully loaded car. This makes all cables breaking extremely unlikely — instead, an overcrowded car will simply not move. The doors will stay open until enough weight is removed from the elevator.

Elevator Assembly



Myth:

Doors can open to an empty, dangerous elevator shaft.



Fact:

The elevator car controls whether its doors open. If the car doesn't arrive to the floor, there is no signal that triggers the doors to open.

Myth:

If an elevator gets stuck or loses power, it is possible to run out of oxygen in the elevator car.



Fact:

Elevator cars are not airtight. There is a minimum requirement for ventilation openings to meet safety standards.

Myth:

Elevators can free-fall to the ground.

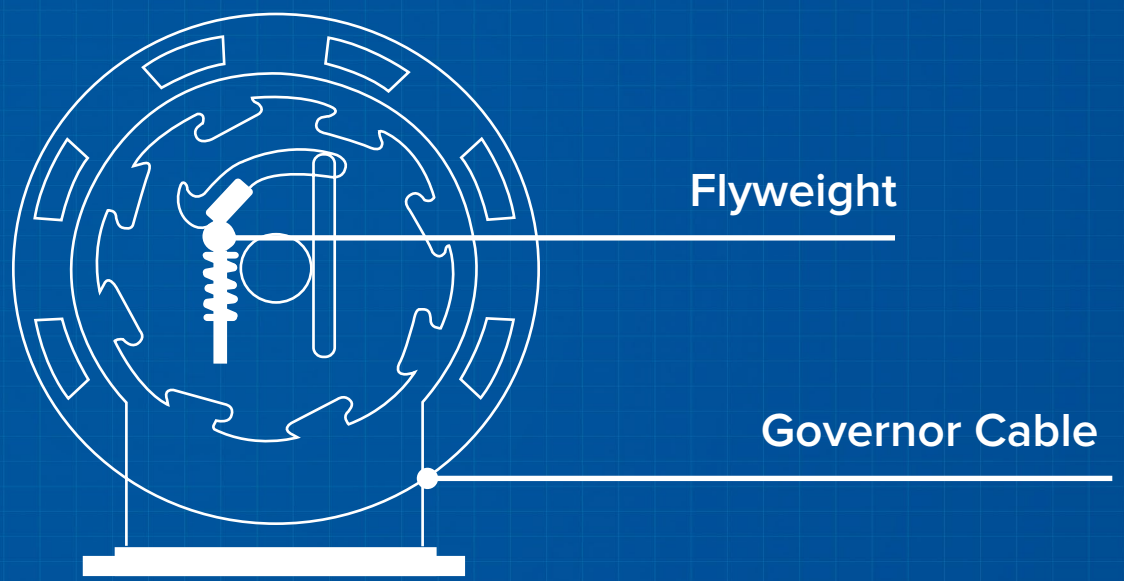


Fact:

If an elevator moves too quickly, a safety system is activated by a governor — a pulley that rotates when the elevator moves. If a certain speed limit is exceeded, the mechanical speed governor activates braking systems on the elevator car that grab onto the rails running up and down the elevator shaft.

How a Governor works

The governor consists of a flywheel with centrifugal arms that fly outward it the elevator moves too quickly, triggering a safety mechanism that applies brakes to the governor cable and slows it down.



Every 3 days, elevators move the equivalent of the world's population (7+ billion people), making it the most frequently used mode of transportation in the world.

At Renown Electric, we recognize the importance of a safely operating elevator system, which is why we offer such a wide range of elevator motor repair services both in-shop and in the field. We also know the importance of avoiding elevator downtime, which is why we stay open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.