SAFETY MATTERS
ANNUAL REPORT FY 2017

Inspections
Regulations
With safety as a shared responsibility, TSSA recognizes the exceptional efforts of individual and corporate actions across Ontario, affirming the idea that we all have role to play in safety. Ontario’s enviable safety record is the result of these actions and the considerable teamwork between TSSA, industry partners, safety advocates and technical experts.

Such was the impetus behind the creation of TSSA’s Safety Awards program. In its third, celebratory year, TSSA is proud to present our winners this year – two in fire and CO safety and one in escalator safety.

Bringing greater safety to their community, their industry and the province of Ontario, these recipients promote safety-driven acts that resonate with the public they proudly serve. See how our noteworthy winners made safety matter this year.
EHC Global is literally riding the safety rail. As a leading manufacturer of handrails, safety brushes, rollers and lift components for escalators, elevators and moving walks, EHC helps millions move safely in public transit systems, shopping centres, airports, office buildings, hospitals, condominiums and other metropolitan spaces.

Global in its reach, EHC is distinctly Canadian. Founded in 1977 as the Escalator Handrail Company, EHC had its start in Oshawa where it remains today as the headquarters for global operations.

Their most recent Ontario venture helped Lakeridge Health, one of Oshawa’s largest community hospitals, maximize passenger safety. Retrofitting the hospital’s escalators, EHC brought its patented NT SafeRail to Lakeridge, featuring permanent, vandal-resistant safety messages: Hold the Handrail; Attend Children; and Avoid Sides. Those messages went directly on the handrail – where riders get a firm grip on safety.

As the first healthcare facility in the world to gain EHC’s SafeRail, Lakeridge was more than elevated.

“We used our latest innovation,” says John Calderón, EHC Marketing Director, “to encourage safe and responsible rider use at Oshawa’s biggest hospital. This was important to the safety and comfort of Lakeridge patients, staff and visitors.”

This fit nicely with TSSA’s own efforts in addressing safety in hospitals and other special buildings with vulnerable occupants who face difficulty evacuating in an emergency. While this initiative continues its success in fuel safety, TSSA’s risk analysis also noted a rising challenge with unsafe riding behaviour on escalators.

“This year, we attempted to mitigate the known risks of escalator injury,” says Roger Neate, TSSA Director of Elevating and Amusement Devices, “with four dramatic videos (on social media and TSSA’s YouTube channel) so everyone can practice safe escalator behaviour. EHC’s safety designs and escalator messaging uniquely complement our own safety efforts.”

Their designs go even further – with an antimicrobial handrail to stop germs and bacteria, deflector safety brushes to keep riders from dangerous side-step entrapments, and a motion handrail to ensure safe entry and exiting by detecting the speed and direction of travel.

EHC brought their handrail ingenuity to the public transit market too, implementing greater safety solutions with the NT MotionRail for the Chicago Transit Authority – the second largest public transportation system in the United States. London Underground and Dubai Metro also enjoy EHC’s safety benefits of motion detection, enabling riders to take a more natural step on and off the escalator.

“While EHC has a truly global presence,” says Mr. Neate, “their safety impact on Ontario’s riding public is more than worthy of TSSA’s Impact Safety Award.”

With a passion for safety and engineering excellence, EHC has firm grip on escalator safety.