

# Expert Witness Profile

**Eur Ing Simon Russett MSc CEng FCIBSE FIET**

Consulting Engineer – Lift & Escalator Technical Expert

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## Areas of work

Specialist technical expert in all aspects of lift and escalator design, for all building types, from concept to completion, enabling clients to achieve coordinated site wide integrated VT strategies. Worked on many complex projects throughout the UK, Europe, Asia, the Middle East, and the USA. Undertaken projects in most sectors including commercial offices, transport, residential, industrial, education, healthcare, retail, leisure, sports, and hotels. Designed VT systems for international and high-rise projects.

## Qualifications

European Engineer, Master of Science postgraduate degree in Lift Engineering, Chartered Engineer, Fellow of the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, Fellow of the Institute of Engineering and Technology, Member of the Council for Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, Member of the British Council for Offices, Member of the Society of Construction Law.

**Simon Russett** is a Director at Hoare Lea. He served a technical apprenticeship with an international lift company in the late 1980's and since 1991 has been a Consulting Engineer. He founded the **Hoare Lea Vertical Transportation Group** in 2002. He is a past Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Building Service Engineers (CIBSE) Lifts Group. He was a member of the steering group and a revision author for the 2005, 2010, 2015 and 2020 editions of CIBSE Guide D – Transportation Systems in Buildings, and the 2009, 2014 and 2019 editions of the BCO Office Guide – Best Practice in the Specification for Offices. He also co-authored Building Services Design for Energy Efficient Buildings in 2020, and Resource Efficiency of Building Services CIBSE TM54 in 2014. He has published numerous articles on new technology, such as double deck elevators, destination control systems and life safety, as well as modernising and upgrading elevator systems within existing buildings.

He has been instructed to provide technical expert advice in Lift and Escalator disputes, has prepared advisory reports CPR 35 ready. Is involved with alternative dispute resolution including arbitration, mediation, and adjudication. He has attended court proceedings providing evidence and been cross examined. Mr. Russett expert cases include:

1. **Taylor Wessing:** Sports stadium acting for claimant on incorrect selection of lifts. Adjudication in favour of claimant.
2. **Pinsent Mason:** Hotel project acting for defendant on alleged lift defects. Mediation in favour of defendant.
3. **McFarlanes:** Retail project acting for claimant on lift performance issues. CPR35 agreement in favour of claimant.
4. **Michelmores:** Healthcare project acting for claimant with alleged lift defects and longevity issues. Mediation agreed works to rectify.
5. **Pinsent Mason:** Student accommodation project acting for claimant on lift defects. Mediation in favour of claimant.
6. **CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP:** Office dilapidation acting for defendant. Court attendance where HHJ Paul Matthews found for the claimant.

Simon Russett Expert Witness offers a full range of professional services including:

- Preliminary Technical Advice
- Inspection and Preliminary Report
- Conferences with Counsel
- Provision of Expert Opinion
- CPR Ready Report Preparation
- Dispute Resolution
- Attendance at Court Proceedings