



D2E International VT Consultants Ltd



## ABOUT US

D2E are a lift, escalator and façade access management consultancy that prides itself on delivering the highest standards of professional service. D2E have worked on many notable sites such as Marble Arch Place, 70 St Mary Axe and Battersea Power Station

This article uses our extensive knowledge to provide useful information about vertical transportation (VT) and construction market.



Marble Arch Place

## VERTICAL TRANSPORTATION MARKET

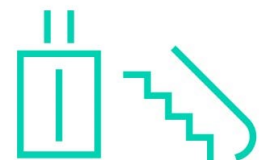
Covid-19 continues to have a dramatic impact across many industries with VT being no exception. Evidence has shown that clients (designers, architects etc.) are looking at design changes to take into account COVID-19, therefore delaying projects and increasing cost. In response, suppliers are likely to include COVID-19 clauses in their tender submissions for the foreseeable future.

With COVID-19 working practices advised by the government, there will be an increase in installation times, which we estimate will make suppliers 20-30% less productive and therefore increase labour cost.

### COST INCREASES

#### Possible causes:

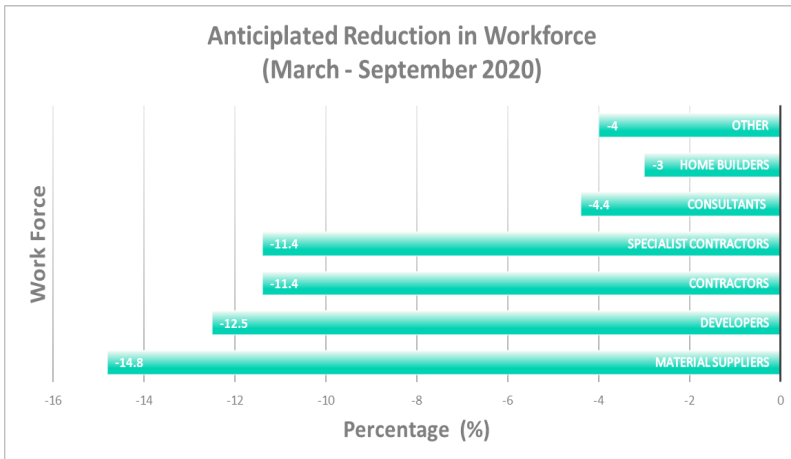
- Exchange rate fluctuations to affect equipment cost as a result of Brexit
- Cost increase due to COVID-19 working practices, e.g. Labour cost
- Increased raw materials lead times
- Client budget restrictions due to COVID-19
- Increased installation times



# CONSTRUCTION & ECONOMY

MGI scenarios suggest that if things go well, construction activity could be back to pre-crisis levels by early 2021. However, longer-term lockdowns could mean that it takes until 2024 or even later. (McKinsey & Company, *The next normal in construction*, June 2020)

A survey was conducted at the start of June 2020 to help inform construction leadership Council's planning for industry recovery. The results revealed that across the industry, 43% of respondents expect to make some redundancies and that contractors expect to lay off an average of 11.4% of their employees by September 2020. (Gardiner & Theobald Market Intelligence, *COVID-19:Construction UPDATE*, 23rd June 2020)



The COVID-19 crisis has had a dramatic impact on the global economy and is likely to continue to do so for the foreseeable future. The Euler Hermes CFO survey highlight some key facts:

- Expected global GDP in 2020 **-3.3%**
- Expected APAC GDP in 2020 **-0.6%**
- Expected global insolvency in 2020 **+20%**

## LIFT SUPPLIER SOLUTIONS

In response to COVID-19, lift suppliers have proposed several solutions to keep people as safe as possible when using lifts and escalators. Lifts and escalators are often the most efficient way for people to move around buildings, and as such, it is important that these solutions help prevent the spread of the virus. Below are solutions proposed by some of the leading lift and escalator companies:

- Regular cleaning of high contact surfaces such as lift buttons and using air disinfectant inside lifts, wiping buttons, doors, walls and handrails.
- Making the most of the available technology. Introduction of calling apps which allows users to call a lift using smart phones.
- Practice social distancing in lifts. If in a crowded lift, refrain from talking and stand at least one meter away from your fellow passenger
- Introduction of an antimicrobial escalator handrail that protects passengers through preventing the accelerated growth of bacteria. (See image)



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