Continuing its efforts to provide useful, real-time information to customers, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) launched a new system to notify customers about the status of CTA elevators. Customers can now subscribe to alerts about unplanned outages and service restoration of elevators at CTA rail stations system wide, received via text message or email. Customers can choose to receive notifications for individual lines or all rail lines, with information on when elevators are taken out of service for maintenance or repair and when they resume operation. “Providing real-time information is an important way the CTA can help ensure a positive customer experience,” said CTA President Dorval R. Carter, Jr. “This new feature will make the information available wherever you are on a platform, on a bus getting ready to transfer, or already on the train and en-route to a station.” The real-time information, he added, will be especially helpful to CTA riders who are wheelchair users, allowing them to plan seamless commutes. CTA operates 153 elevators at 88 rail stations, serving either the elevated structure or subway level. Through April 2016, CTA elevators had an average uptime percentage of 99.5%. Metro Magazine

A Chicago firefighter was recovering a day after falling down the shaft of an out-of-service elevator as he battled a deadly fire in a West Side building that had previously failed a city inspection. The four-story building at 812 N. Central Ave. in the South Austin neighborhood was cited in February for failing to maintain the elevator, which had an unlocked "apartment-style" door through which the firefighter fell, according to Chicago Department of Buildings records and fire officials. "He's conscious and alert. It didn't look like he suffered anything extremely serious from the fall," said Chicago Fire Department spokesman Larry Langford. "He was very fortunate." The blaze erupted in a one-room apartment where the victim was discovered, lying by the door after firefighters burst into the room about 10 p.m., Langford said. The fire was out by 10:48 p.m., according to fire officials. Chicago Tribune

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

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| Thursday September 1st | CEA Meeting Oakbrook  
BRUGG Presenter |
| Sept 19th - 22nd | United in Montreal  
Montreal, Canada |
| Thursday October 6th | CEA Meeting Schiller Pk  
Tri-Tronics Presenter |
| Thursday November 3rd | CEA Meeting Oakbrook  
Joe Donnelly Speaker |