Elevator cylinder replacement is a complicated process whether due to cylinder failure, code compliance or proactive replacement. If cylinder excavation is done improperly it could be detrimental to a building's structural integrity as well as become very expensive. One of Colley Elevator's core competencies is cylinder replacement and we complete more elevator cylinder replacement projects in the Chicago land area than any other company. Unfortunately when working with underground conditions there is a substantial unknown that exists i.e. rocks, boulders, building construction members, sand, water, quicksand, underground caves we work with the building owner to understand these unknowns prior to moving forward with a project and many times we can mitigate unusual circumstances with out additional expenses to the building owner.

Code Compliance

Prior to 1972 there was not a code requiring elevators cylinder to have a double safety bulk head. What this means is that there is a potential for catastrophic failure that has resulted in serious injury and death. While the potential for a catastrophic failure is extremely rare it has occurred and the Elevator Code has addressed the single bottom jack issue with the replacement of all cylinders that have a single bottom. Please note that all jurisdictions have not adopted this part of the code. The current elevator code requires that not only all elevators have double bottom bulk heads, they also need to be put in PVC protection to prevent corrosion from outside elements.