CLAIMS

[Claim 1]

An elevator apparatus comprising:

a riding car disposed on a hoistway;

a counterweight;

a rope coupled to the riding car and the counterweight;

a hoisting machine that drives the rope;

a limit switch disposed near an upper and/or a lower terminal floor of the hoistway; and

an operation member disposed on the riding car to operate the limit switch,

wherein when the operation member contacts the limit switch, the riding car is detected to exceed an ordinary operation range, and an operation of the hoisting machine is stopped to stop hoisting of the riding car, and

the operation member utilizes a constituting member of the riding car, wherein the constituting member of the riding car is a car-top handrail disposed on a top portion of the riding car,

the car-top handrail includes a plurality of vertical frames extending in an up/down direction of the riding car and a horizontal frame disposed across the plurality of vertical frames, and

among the plurality of vertical frames, a vertical

frame disposed at a position opposing the limit switch constitutes the operation member.

[Claim 2]

The elevator apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the vertical frame constituting the operation member has a flat surface along the up/down direction of the riding car, and the surface contacts the limit switch.

[Claim 3]

The elevator apparatus according to claim 1,

wherein the limit switch is disposed near the upper terminal floor of the hoistway.