

# SAFETY ALERT



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE  
SAFETY GROUP

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*"A vision of a safer steel industry"*

<b>Number:</b>	SA0010
<b>Subject:</b>	Faulty Ladder Handrail
<b>Date :</b>	25/08/05

## Incident:

- During a routine inspection, an employee noticed a weakened area on a ladder handrail strut and upon closer checking, noticed that the joint had failed.



## Key Lessons:

- Once the handrails become loose they are susceptible to becoming fatigue points.
- Handrails are an aid that people rely on to do tasks safely and need to be regularly checked.
- Damaged handrails could potentially lead to a person falling off the access ladder with severe consequences.

## Recommendations:

- Regular checking of ladder for fatigue points in particular the handrail.
- Regular tightening of handrail fixing points.
- Ensure all personnel that use access ladders are made aware of the potential for this failure to occur

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