

SAFETY ALERT



AUSTRALIAN STEEL INSTITUTE
SAFETY GROUP

"Sharing incident learnings amongst ASI member companies"

"A vision of a safer steel industry"

Number:	SA0012
Subject:	Failure of lifting apparatus while moving coil
Date:	December 2005

Incident:

- A near miss event with the failure of the coil loading/unloading lifting apparatus. The event occurred when one of the hammerlock joiners securing one of the lifting links broke while unloading the coil from the Decoiler mandrel. Enough of the coil was still on the Decoiler to catch itself between the Decoiler and lifting apparatus. This lifting equipment had just had its 3 monthly test (09.11.05) with load test and was tagged as safe to work. The problem was identified as a crack in the linkage of the hammerlock, which was undetected by the visual or load test inspection of the service technician. The red circle in the below left photo was the location of the crack.



Key Lessons:

- Ensure your test certificates for lifting equipment are up to date
- Reinforce to staff the importance of not standing underneath an elevated load

Recommendations:

- Encourage staff to report abnormal incidents concerning equipment even though no damage may be apparent.
- Run education programs for operators on use and care of lifting equipment

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