

August 2009

Failure of Prefabricated stair unit

Incident

Worksafe WA is currently investigating a dangerous occurrence involving the failure of a prefabricated aluminium stair unit. The failure has allowed enough movement in a prefabricated stair unit to become dislodged from the supporting transom resulting person falling approx 10 meters to the ground below. *Inspections on various other sites found prefabricated aluminium stair units with similar issues.*



Prefabricated aluminium stair unit

Preventive measures

- Ensure that any prefabricated stair units in use are physically secured by use of a tool.
- Businesses that hire out aluminium stair units ensure that each unit is inspected for defects between each hiring to ensure no unsafe units are supplied for use.
- Check to ensure that there are no bent treads, bent stringers, broken or bent pins, broken welds and assembly is not twisted.
- Scaffolders have important responsibilities to visually inspect scaffolding equipment for faults prior to installation.
- Rejected scaffolding components should be recorded, isolated and clearly marked to prevent reuse.

For further information

For further information or advice on this issue or any other health and safety issue don't hesitate to contact your union on 9221 1055 or Mick Buchan direct on 0419 812 861. Email mbuchan@cfmeuwa.com

Report unsafe sites and safety procedures call 9221 1055. You can also Text 0419 812 861