

Number 1 2007

Shipping container door comes unhinged

Details

On 11 July 2007, the side door on a shipping container fell off its hinges as it was being opened, narrowly missing an employee. No injuries were sustained.

Details of the container were:

Type:	NT-S-245G.3
Manufacturer's number:	NCSE02S 15208
Identification number:	ANNU 060119-12
Date manufactured:	11/2002
Manufacturer:	Nantong Cimc Special Transportation Equipment Manufacture Co, Ltd

Contributing Factors

An examination of the container revealed the retaining lugs – welded to the container frame and in which the hinge pins are fixed – exhibited severe corrosion.

Photograph 1 shows the container with the door inside the container. The hinge pin lugs are visible on the container frame.



Photograph 2 shows the lugs on the side of the container. Note the fourth lug [lowest] is completely missing.



Photograph 3 shows a hinge pin in a severely corroded hinge lug.



Shipping containers are exposed to environments, during transport and storage, which promote the corrosion of metal parts, particularly where applied paint coatings have sustained damage.

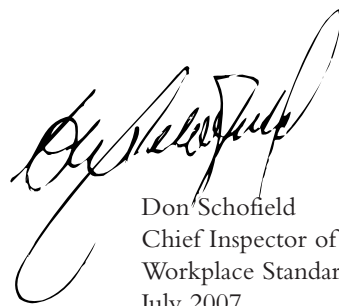
Recommendations

In order to prevent possible injury of a person by a door falling on them, all containers of this type should be inspected for corrosion of hinge lugs.

Where corrosion is identified, and the integrity of the hinges is in doubt, the container should be withdrawn from service, inspected by a competent person, and repaired in accordance with the appropriate standards.

If you would like further information contact Workplace Standards Tasmania on:
Telephone: **1300 366 322** (inside Tasmania) or (03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania)

Fax: (03) 6233 8338 Email: wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au Internet: www.wst.tas.gov.au



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