

HAZARD ALERT

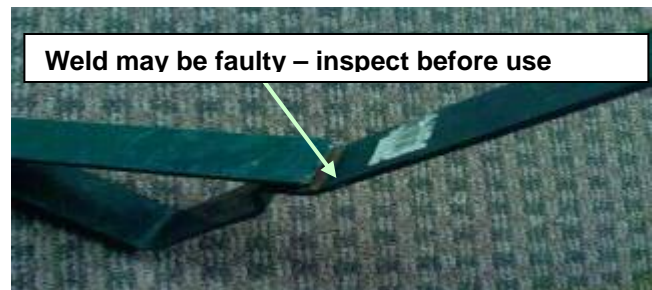
Roof Brackets

Date of Issue: September 22, 2008

Hazard Summary

Roof brackets are commonly available from hardware stores, roofing suppliers and home centres. They are used, together with planking, to build a 'slide guard' at the edge of a roof as a first line of defense in fall protection.

Typically a roof bracket is made of metal and has three slots at the top to fasten it to the roof; the bottom is made to hold a plank. The roof brackets are installed at the edge of the roof before roofing work starts. As work continues up the roof, the brackets and planks will be repositioned. Often material to be used in roofing, shingles for example, are piled on the planks as work progresses up the roof.



Recently it was reported that the welding on several brackets was faulty. These faults were only visible when handling the bracket itself; they would not have been noticed when in actual use.

Preventive Measures

The Occupational Health and Safety Division remind everyone that:

- All tools must be inspected before being used
- Tools not in safe condition must be repaired before being used or replaced.