

BACKGROUND:

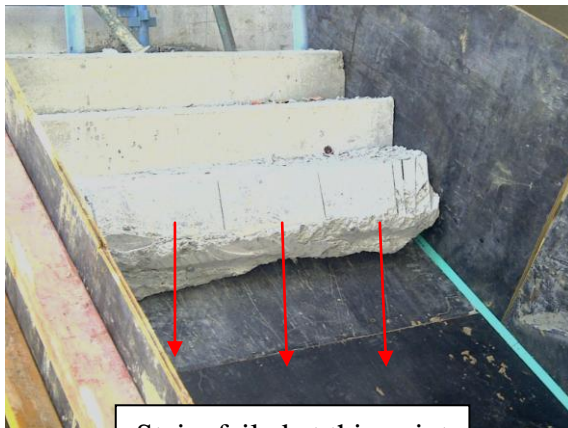
A concrete stairwell has failed on a construction site, which potentially, could have fatally injured workers.

A section of stairs had been poured and after the required curing time were stripped of the supporting formwork. Workers using the stairs, on one occasion, reported that the stairs had dropped when they proceeded to walk up that section of stairwell.

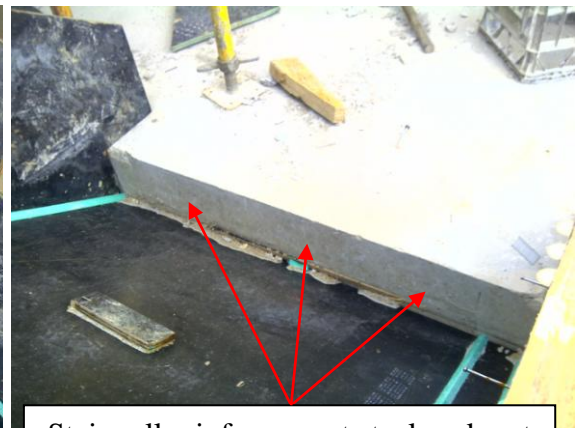
Upon investigation it was discovered that the steel reinforcement framework of the stairs had not been tied into the slab at the foot of the stairwell causing it to fail and that a pre-pour checklist had not been completed.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Ensure that all formwork is inspected and signed off by competent persons.
- Ensure that pre-pour checklists are completed and signed off at recommended hold points.
- Ensure that engineers approval is received and verified before any structural concrete pour proceeds.
- All supervisors and contractors are to be aware of their obligations during the concrete pouring process to ensure all relevant documentation is completed and on site.
- All personnel involved in the process to receive adequate training and instruction



Stairs failed at this point



Stairwell reinforcement steelwork not tied into slab

For further information contact Steve McCann:
Mob: 0488 102 297
Email: smccann@cfmeuwa.com