



## **Ladder Inspection & Maintenance Guide**

### **Ladder Inspection**

Ladders should be inspected before each use to check for signs of damage, excessive wear, or missing components. Any ladder that is damaged should be removed from service immediately.

- Check that the ladder is free from cracks, dents, corrosion, water, dirt, grease, or other contaminants.
- Check for loose or missing bolts/ rivets.
- Check all ladder feet are present and do not show any signs of excessive wear.
- Check any ropes are securely attached and are not frayed or otherwise damaged.
- Check ladder spreaders to ensure they are in good working order and free from damage.
- Check all latching devices to ensure they move freely and engage correctly.
- Check that the ladder does not have any non-factory modifications.
- Check that timber ladders do not show signs of splitting or rotting.

### **Storage and Transportation**

- Ensure the ladder is securely tied down to prevent movement and friction during transport. Take care not to overtighten ties as this can damage the ladder.
- When transporting a ladder on a vehicle, always ensure it is supported along the full length to eliminate sagging.
- Always transport extendable or multi-purpose ladders in their smallest / shorted configuration. Do not transport ladder in their extended configuration.

### **Ladder Maintenance**

- When cleaning a ladder, use mild soapy water and ensure the ladder is completely dry before using.
- Store ladders in a dry, sheltered location to protect from the elements.
- Over time and with use, fiberglass may deteriorate to a point where fibres become exposed. This issue can be addressed by washing the ladder with a commercial solvent and applying polyurethane or acrylic lacquer to cover the exposed fibres.
- Do not paint timber ladders as this may hide damage or defects. Use only a clear, exterior varnish.