

POWER POLES



It has been brought to the attention of the ETU that an incident occurred on 16 May 2003, involving a power pole that snapped while a worker was aloft a ladder.

No worker should work aloft from a ladder on a power pole unless it has been clearly established that:

- it is safe to do so; and
- the pole is in a sound condition.

The responsibility of providing for safety of employees rests with the employer under Section 21 (2)(a) of the OH&S Act 1985 to provide and maintain a safe system of work.

The employer, under Section 21 (2)(c), is also required to maintain any workplace in a condition that is safe and without risks to health.