

### **Alert: Class Frontal - Fixed Rail Ladder (FRL) Fall Protection System**

Falls are a significant cause of workplace injuries and fatalities. The use of proper fall protection equipment is critical to protect the health and safety of workers.

A worker was recently injured after falling twenty metres from a ladder attached to a tower while using a Class FRL Fall Protection System. In conjunction with the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) the Ontario Ministry of Labour has determined that the design of the Class FRL Fall Protection System used by the worker, which was certified to the standard CSA Z259.2.1-98 Fall Arresters, Vertical Lifelines, and Rails, did not address all potential fall conditions.

In particular, a Class FRL Fall Protection System may not adequately protect workers who fall backward while connected to a vertical rail. Leaning back pulls the trolley's internal braking system off the rail, allowing the trolley to slide down the rail. If a worker falls backwards (as opposed to straight down or inwards) the trolley may not lock, allowing a worker to fall.

[Hazard Alert from Ontario MOL](#)