STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE # FDO 3.216

Subject: Procedure for Inspecting Ladders

Purpose and Scope: To ensure that personnel have the knowledge to properly inspect ladders and when to remove them from operation.

Procedures: Ladders should be inspected before each use.

1. Observe general condition. Is the ladder clean and dry, free from oil, mud, etc.

2. Visually inspect the ladder for cracks.

3. Check for missing, bent, or loose rungs.

4. Is the ladder painted? Ladders should never be painted, as this could hide dangerous defects.

5. Ensure no steps are damaged or bent.

6. Check footpads and ensure they are clean and securely fastened. All ladders should have slip-resistant rubber or plastic feet.

7. If a ladder is damaged, notify supervisor who will immediately remove from service and have replaced as soon as possible.

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