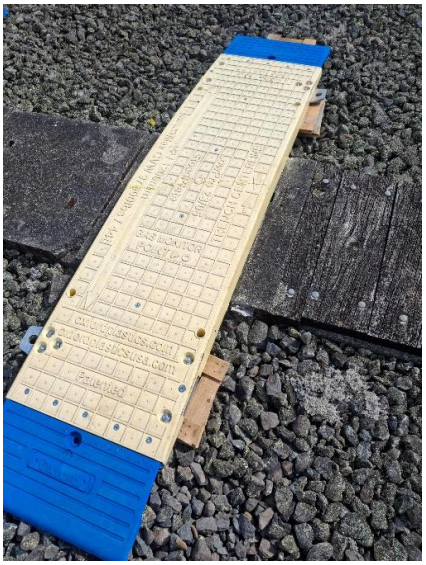
TRANSPOWER

FIRST ALERT

Portable Ramp Failure Identified During Site Operations



Inside the Substation Outdoor Switchyard (ODS) vehicles and plant were required to transit across the yard to complete work. A set of portable vehicle ramps were positioned over a duct and inspected to verify they were stable and supported on both sides. The ramps, which have a load rating of 44 t, were used by a 33 t Hiab truck, a 16 t MEWP, and several light vehicles. After this activity, cracking was observed across the centre section of one ramp.

The ramps had been stored outdoors and exposed to ultra-violet (UV) and weather. The manufacturer specification states that the ramps will not structurally degrade in UV light, in the presence of water or salts, and are stable in temperatures from +50c to -30c.

Immediate actions

- The defective ramps were immediately removed from site
- Inspection of other portable ramps located on other sites
- Investigation initiated including engaging with the manufacturer (Vanguard)
- Explore other vehicle crossing options both permanent and portable

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