

Safety Bulletin No. 09/2017

INDOOR SUBSTATIONS – FALL OF FACIA STONE

Issue date	27 July 2017
Issued by	Vincent Cranny, Head of Health, Safety & Environment
Applicable to	Operational Employees

On 25 July 2017 a Fault Technician was entering a brick built indoor substation at Ramillies Avenue (171643) in Cheadle Hulme.

As the substation door was being unlocked a large facia stone fell from above the door striking the Fault Technician on the head resulting in a large cut that required medical treatment.

Initial investigations have concluded that the facia stone was not adequately secured when the substation was originally built (c1950s), the facia stone has a lip which sits over the door frame, the door frame itself has become loose over time and the door lock hasp has become stuck. It is thought that whenever the substation door has been opened and closed the door frame has moved and gradually loosened the facia stone.

Although there is no specific procedure for checking the integrity of the fabric of substation buildings when entering, and no indication that a check would have identified the risk with this facia stone, **good practice when entering any indoor substation building is to visually check the building for any obvious signs of damage or deterioration that presents a risk.**

Such a check can be part of the dynamic risk assessment alongside the formal substation entry procedure prescribed in Code of Practice 606 procedure S.28. Any defects relating to building structure should be reported to the Civil section for rectification.



Facia Stone in place



Safety



Safety Bulletin No. 09/2017



Fallen Facia Stone



Safety

