



# IBE25-006 Escalator Step and Moving Walk Pallet Repair

**Date Issued:** August 2025

**Subject:**

Escalator Step and Moving Walk Pallet Repairs that Violate Certification and Code Requirements

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**Issue:**

Recent claims have surfaced within the industry regarding third-party repair techniques for escalator steps and moving walk pallets, including the refurbishment of tread surfaces to remove “knife edging.” These methods are being promoted as code-compliant, code committee-endorsed, and approved in other Canadian jurisdictions. As of the date of this bulletin, these claims are inaccurate and misleading.

Such repairs may violate the certification requirements outlined in Section 8.3 of the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Code, which mandates a “*Step and Pallet Fatigue Engineering Test*”. Any unauthorized modification or structural repair, such as welding or resurfacing, may invalidate the certification and require approval from the original certifying organization.

Although other jurisdictions may, in the future, permit repairs to components listed in Section 8.3 without approval from the original equipment manufacturer (OEM), the certifying organization, or code committee, such acceptance elsewhere does not automatically qualify these repair methods for use in Alberta.

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**Interpretation:**

The maintenance provisions in Sections 8.6.8.6 (Steps) and 8.6.9.3 (Pallets) require that damaged or worn components be repaired or replaced. However, the option to “*repair*” applies only when the OEM or certifying organization has provided a repair procedure or approved replacement components, such as modular treads or demarcation strips.

**Key Clarifications:**

- The Code does not permit changes to components listed in section 8.3 without approval from the OEM or the original certifying organization.
- Any structural modification, including welding, filler application, or tread reshaping, likely invalidates the certification unless approved by the OEM or the original certifying organization.
- The ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Escalator and Moving Walk Code Committee have not approved these repair techniques. While such work may have occurred in some jurisdictions, it has been done without approval from the OEM, a professional engineer, the code committee, or the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ). The existence of such unapproved practices does not imply that they are acceptable or code compliant.

**In Alberta**, such repair procedures are not acceptable unless they meet **one** of the following conditions:

1. The procedure is endorsed by the OEM or the original certifying organization; or
2. The procedure is endorsed by a registered engineering professional, is specific to the step or pallet model, and incorporates or verifies fatigue testing requirements outlined in Clause 8.3.11.

Until further guidance is issued by the ASME A17.1/CSA B44 Code Committee, **all escalator steps and pallets must be maintained in accordance with current Code requirements and OEM specifications.**