This advisory is intended to bring awareness to a method of connecting hoist ropes to the crosshead of an elevator, in the form of a “Turnbull Elevator Spring Hitch” arrangement.

An area of fatigue is identified in the drawing below, and its integrity should be routinely assessed.

This failure was recently observed during a period inspection, and contractors and mechanics should be aware of this issue.

In a 1965 Turnbull letter to the then Department of Labour, Turnbull advised about replacing bolts and adding wood blocking as shown in drawing 3B00247 above.
Photo 1
Showing intact spring hitch [A] and wood blocking [B]

Photo 2
Overview of spring hitch arrangement
[C] Area where spring hitch is located - between crosshead members (not visible in photo)

Photo 3
[D] Showing failed spring hitch

[E] Inverted ‘C’ Channel has embedded itself in the wood blocking (added per Turnbull drawing 3B00247)