

in charge. Once the cause for this occurrence has been identified, it will be mitigated by the company or the MIC.

## **8.5 Machine Room Safety**

Access to machine rooms, as well as working in the machine room itself, can be hazardous if proper precautions are not taken. It is very important that you have the ability to recognize potential hazards and are aware of the proper precautions to take when they exist. Machine rooms shall be secured from unauthorized access.

### *8.5.1 Access to the machine room*

Just getting to a machine room can be hazardous, so recognizing potential hazards and taking steps to correct or avoid them is very important. Some of the more common hazards are:

- (a) Lighting
  - (1) If the stairwell or hallway area is not well lit, use a flashlight or other temporary lighting until the situation can be corrected – Don't just "feel your way" in the dark.
- (b) Unsafe ladders
  - (1) Many machine rooms can only be accessed through the use of fixed ladders. Always check the condition of the ladder before climbing.
  - (2) Never climb a ladder with tools in your hands. Use a rope to pull tools up.
- (c) Machine room doors are typically self-closing and/or self-locking. The ASME A17.1 requires the door to be operable from inside the machine room without the need to use a key.