Deadlatches

The Short Version

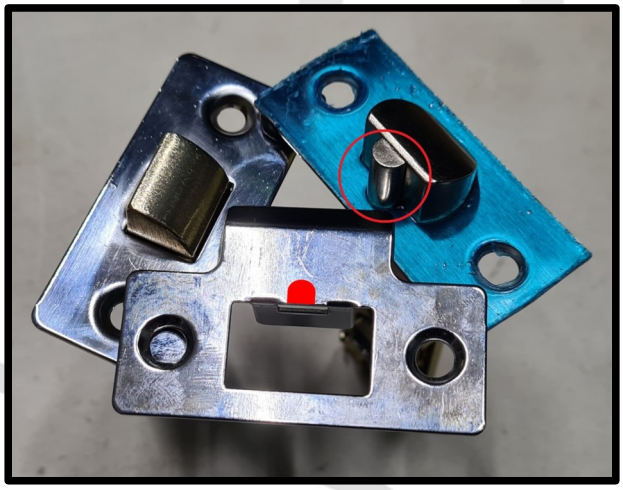
Latch slipping is a solved problem. It shouldn't be possible with a correctly fitted modern latch.

The Long Version

There are two major factors for latch slipping:

First is whether there is a deadlatch plunger or not.

The **leadlatch plunger** is a small protrusion that **sits alongside the latch** on the examples (**circled red**). When the **door is closed**, the **plunger** sits **against the strike plate** (**red spot**) whilst the latch sits within the recess. This locks the latch so it **can't be slipped**. Deadlatch plungers can be separate from the latch on some models.



Press down the deadlatch plunger and see what happens when you try and press in the latch.

Second is whether the deadlatch plunger actually works…

You'll notice the **strike plate** on the display **depresses the plunger** when placed over the latch.

The door **fitting** must be **precise** and a small amount of **settling** can cause **problems** with normal **latch function** and **result in a callback** for the maintenance team.

As a result, many installation teams will use an **oversized strike plate** that gives them some **leeway when fitting**. This usually renders the **deadlatch** feature **ineffective**.

You can find incredibly expensive locks reduced to simple latches.