



Fall Protection

# Visual/Impact Indicators on Full Body Harnesses

## Description

Harnesses involved in falls or exposed to impact forces are required by OSHA, ANSI, CSA and CE regulations to be removed from service. Current product standards, such as ANSI/ASSP Z359.11, require full body harnesses to have fall impact indicators built into each full body harness. This feature is included to help facilitate product inspection of the harness by providing a quick visual aid to the inspector or user.

On 3M™ DBI-SALA® ExoFit™ XP Harnesses, visual impact indicators are incorporated into the dorsal d-ring. When ExoFit XP harnesses are involved in a fall, the visual impact indicator is deployed and the d-ring is retained within the harness webbing. This visual impact indicator helps users and competent persons to visually and quickly determine that the harness has been exposed to a fall or impact forces and should be removed from service.

ExoFit XP harness dorsal d-rings will typically activate and expose visual fall impact indicator when a force of 450-650 lbs has been applied. Impacted dorsal d-rings cannot be re-set or repaired. During repeated activities, such as training exercises where a student is suspended or bouncing while positioning or is jolted during training, 450-650 lbs of force may be exceeded on the dorsal d-rings and could deploy the visual impact indicator. This may occur even though no fall was experienced.

## Recommendations

3M recommends that ExoFit XP harnesses should be used for training that does not involve suspension by the dorsal d-ring or rescue. If positioning, suspension or rescue from dorsal d-rings is part of training exercises, then 3M recommends using harnesses such as the ExoFit STRATA™, ExoFit NEX™, ExoFit™ or Delta™ harnesses. These models contain different types of visual impact indicators that are typically not affected by general positioning, suspension, or rescue activities.

When a visual impact indicator is deployed during training exercises but no free fall has occurred, 3M allows the harness with deployed visual/impact indicator to be used for further training exercises provided that a competent person has inspected the harness and found it acceptable and in safe working condition (except for the indicted dorsal d-ring).

If an ExoFit XP harness shows impact indication on the dorsal d-ring and has not been involved in a fall, suspension or rescue event, please contact 3M for further information.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE**

Refer to the 3M *User Instructions* provided with your product for additional information.

#### **3M Personal Safety Division**

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