



Technical Bulletin

No. SRL002, Rev. C

Subject: Using DBI/SALA Self-Retracting Lifelines With Separate Lanyards

For most applications, the use of separate lanyards connected in-line with DBI/SALA Self-Retracting Lifelines (SRL's) is **not recommended**. There are several concerns regarding this lanyard/SRL combination, including:

1. **Compatibility:** The practices of attaching snap hook to snap hook, or snap hook to web/rope/cable loop is not recommended. This type of connection would not be compatible, and could cause rollout to occur, especially if the locking action on the snap hook does not function properly.
2. **Free Fall:** The addition of a lanyard in-line between the SRL snap hook and the user's body support (i.e., harness) connection d-ring will potentially cause an undetected free fall if the fall occurs with the SRL fully retracted (but the lanyard is slack). The undetected free fall will produce greater fall energy and could extend the total fall distance considerably or damage the SRL, or both.
3. **Fall Distance:** An increase in the total fall distance will occur when a lanyard is used in-line with the SRL if free fall increases as described above. The extension, or stretch, of the lanyard may cause some of this increase. But, the majority of the increased fall distance is due to slack in the lanyard and the need to extend the fall arrest distance in absorbing the additional fall energy. Increased fall distances may allow the attached worker to contact a lower level or obstruction.
4. **Retraction:** The added weight of the in-line lanyard may over-power the SRL's retraction spring. Reduced retraction can cause a slack line resulting in increased fall distances and increased arresting forces.

A number of other concerns may apply to a specific application. If needed, a short (18 inches long) d-ring extension (model 1201117) can be used to help in the connection/disconnection of the SRL to the body support. This d-ring extension provides a compatible connection point for the SRL snap hook.

For applications where the SRL is anchored behind the user, and the line does not pay out vertically, the use of a separate, in-line energy absorber pack (i.e., model 1220362) can be used. Examples of applications where this would be used include flat roof work and leading edge work. See technical bulleting SRL001 for more information.

All applicable user instructions shall be reviewed and followed. Employee training should be conducted to help assure a safe working environment.

All DBI/SALA SRL's contain built-in shock absorbing devices, which automatically reduce the arresting forces. Please contact DBI/SALA regarding applications that you believe requires an in-line lanyard.

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