

# Use of Self-Retracting Devices in Training Environments — Canada

## Description

The use of 3M Self-Retracting Devices (SRDs) in a fall protection training environment allows for some special circumstances. In particular, the 3M SRD may not need to be immediately removed from service following the activation of the impact indicator. The following guidelines should be observed for training applications where it is desired to continue using an impacted SRD in a training application.

- 1) An SRD with a deployed impact indicator can only be used in training environments where there is control and monitoring performed on a regular basis. Other conditions typically associated with training include:
  - a) Limited fall hazards.
  - b) Trainee safety is foremost.
  - c) Continuous supervision and instruction.
  - d) Fall protection equipment is controlled and monitored and only used for training purposes.
  - e) Fall protection equipment is only used according to manufacturer's instructions.
  - f) Manufacturer's recommended servicing frequency guidelines are followed (i.e., SRD is serviced/recertified every two (2) years, minimum).
  - g) Primary purpose of the activity is instructional.
- 2) A Competent Person must inspect the SRD immediately after initial impact and all subsequent impacts. The inspection shall be performed in accordance with 3M's instructions. Inspections include but are not limited to checking:
  - a) Lock-up of the lifeline.
  - b) Retraction of the lifeline.
  - c) Lifeline condition.
  - d) Snap-hook condition.
  - e) Housing condition.
  - f) Fasteners/hardware condition.
  - Any condition constituting a failure of inspection (excluding impact-indicating hook) requires that the SRD be removed from service immediately.
  - a) SRD shall be serviced/recertified by factory authorized personnel immediately following the conclusion of the training session or program.
- 3) Trainees shall be informed of the special circumstances, which allow for impacted SRD to be used for the training circumstances only.
- 4) Documents/records shall be kept on file indicating:
  - a) Date of first use for SRD.
  - b) SRD service history.
  - c) Quantity/circumstances of impacts.
  - d) Inspections performed (when, by whom, findings).

Please contact 3M Canada Technical Service if you have any questions or concerns regarding the guidance provided in this technical bulletin.

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

3M Fall Protection Business  
260 Export Blvd.  
Mississauga, ON L5S 1Y9 Technical  
Service: 800-387-7484  
3M.ca/FallProtection

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