

Fall Protection Safety Tip: Inspection and Product Life for Fall Protection Products

Reputable manufacturers' User Instructions state that fall protection products must be inspected prior to and after each use by the user.

- AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 requires Harnesses, lanyards and associated equipment require a 6-monthly inspection by a height safety equipment inspector, this also includes ropes and slings. External inspection of Fall-arrest devices, Self-Retracting Lifelines, are also required to be inspected 6-monthly.
- Fall-arrest devices (Self-retracting Lifelines) may require servicing to a maximum of 5 yearly intervals or as recommended by the manufacturer. In absence of any recommendations by the manufacturer 12 monthly servicing is required. Servicing should be carried out by a height safety equipment inspector whom is trained and certified to the manufacturer.
- Anchorages that are classified as a drilled-in type or attached to timber frames require inspection on a 12-monthly basis. Other anchorage types may have an inspection period to a maximum of 5-yearly or to manufacturers recommendations. Where a manufacturer has not recommended an inspection frequency a 12-monthly inspection period shall be used. Inspections are required to be conducted by a height safety equipment inspector as recommended by the manufacturer.
- Height Safety equipment used in harsh conditions may require more frequent inspections.

Equipment that reaches its maximum lifespan allowed under the AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 standard, fails inspection, damaged, defective or arrested a fall shall be removed from service immediately and destroyed or repaired, if able.

Inspection, Maintenance and storage requirements are detailed within Section 9 of the AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 standard.

Manufacturers inspection recommendations should be followed.

Do You Know the Right Way to Inspect Your Fall Protection Equipment?

3M User Instructions recommend inspection criteria specific to the equipment being used by the user and additionally by a competent person other than the user.

Please refer to your local standards, regulations and codes of practice for specific details regarding fall protection product life and inspection criteria.

NOTE: It is very important for the user to inspect their fall protection equipment before each use. At 3M, we strive to make our products easy and simple to inspect by providing detailed inspection guidelines and criteria within the User Instructions supplied with each product.

For current User Instructions and other resources, please visit our website at [3M Fall Protection | 3M Australia](#).

You may also contact 3M TechAssist Helpline at 1800 024 464 or Customer Services at 1300 363 565 if you require further assistance or have questions or concerns.

To request for an obligation free consultation.

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