

INSPECTION & CLEANING INSTRUCTIONS FOR VERTICAL LIFELINES



LIFELINE INSPECTION

- Visual inspection of the rope may reveal many signs that the lifeline has been weakened and should be retired. These include:
 - Evidence of broken fibres or significant abrasion
 - Evidence of burns or melting
 - Evidence of dirt - excessive dirt may indicate that the rope has been weakened by the dirt particles abrading the individual fibres in the rope. This is of particular concern if the dirt cannot easily be cleaned off the rope, or if it seems as though the dirt has penetrated through the rope
 - Evidence of oil or grease or paint - these substances may chemically damage the fibres in the rope
 - Every lifeline must have a legible label. If the label is not present, you must retire the lifeline

HARDWARE INSPECTION

- Visual inspection of the hardware components may reveal signs that require the lifeline to be retired. These include:
 - Evidence of corrosion and/or red rust
 - Evidence of cracks or sharp edges
 - Evidence that the hardware does not operate properly (snap hooks, form hooks & carabiners should open and close freely, rope grabs should travel freely along the lifeline, follow manufacturer's inspection instructions)

CLEANING

- Cleaning a lifeline can help extend its usable life and makes inspection easier. We recommend the following process:
 - Any particularly dirty or mud-caked rope should be rinsed with water. A soft nylon bristle brush can be used if required.
 - The rope can be soaked in a tub of water with a mild detergent that is safe for washing the type of fibre your rope is manufactured from (e.g. nylon, polyester).
 - Rinse the rope well to remove all of the mild detergent.
 - The rope should be hung to air dry in a cool, shaded place away from the UV rays of the sun or fluorescent lights. A rope must never be dried in a clothes dryer as the temperature in the dryer can be high enough to damage the rope.

STORAGE

- Lifelines should be stored in a clean, dry, well-ventilated environment, away from direct sunlight, extreme heat, and chemicals.