

PPE - CARE OF SAFETY BEL TS, HARNESSES AND LANYARDS

SAFETY INFOGRAM

EQUIPMENT

- **INSPECT** your equipment daily.
- **REPLACE** defective equipment.
- **REPLACE** any equipment involved in a fall. Refer any questionable defects to a trained inspector.

WEBBING (BODY OF BELT, HARNESS OR LANYARD)

- **INSPECT** entire surface of webbing for damage. Beginning at one end, bend the webbing in an inverted "U. ". Holding the body side of the belt toward you, grasp the belt with your hands six to eight inches apart.
- WATCH for frayed edges, broken fibres, pulled stitches, cuts or chemical damage. Broken webbing strands generally appear as tufts on the webbing surface.
- **REPLACE** according to manufacturer's guidelines.

BUCKLE

- INSPECT for loose, distorted or broken grommets. Do not cut or punch additional holes in waist strap or strength members.
- **CHECK** belt without grommets for torn or elongated holes which could cause the buckle tongue to slip.
- **INSPECT** the buckle for distortion and sharp edges. The outer and center bars must be straight. Carefully check corners and attachment points of the centre bar. They should overlap the buckle frame and move freely back and forth in their sockets. The roller should turn freely on the frame.
- **CHECK** that rivets are tight and cannot be moved. The body side of the rivet base and outside rivet burr should be flat against the material.
- INSPECT for pitted or cracked rivets which indicate chemical corrosion.

ROPE

- **ROT A TE** the rope lanyard and inspect from end to end for fuzzy, worn, broken or cut fibres. Weakened areas have noticeable changes in the original rope diameter.
- REPLACE when rope diameter is not uniform throughout, following a short break-in period.

HARDWARE (FORGED STEEL SNAPS, "D"RINGS)

• **INSPECT** hardware for cracks or other defects. Replace the belt if the "D" ring is not at a 90° angle and does not move vertically independent of the body pad or "D" saddle.

- **INSPECT** tool loops and belt sewing for broken or stretched loops.
- **CHECK** bag rings and knife snaps to see that they are secure and working properly. Check tool loop rivets. Check for thread separation or rotting, both inside and outside the body pad belt.
- INSPECT snaps for hook and eye distortions, cracks, corrosion, or pitted surfaces. The keeper (latch) should be seated into the snap nose without binding and should not be distorted or obstructed. The keeper spring should exert sufficient force to close the keeper firmly.

SAFETY STRAP INSPECTION

- **INSPECT** for cut fibres or damaged stitches inch by inch by flexing the strap in an inverted "U." Note cuts, frayed areas or corrosion damage.
- **CHECK** friction buckle for slippage and sharp buckle edges.
- **REPLACE** when tongue buckle holes are excessively worn or elongated.

CLEANING

Basic care prolongs the life of the unit and contributes to its performance.

- **DRY** belt and other equipment away from heat, steam, and out of long periods of sunlight.
- **STORE** in a clean, dry area, free of fumes, sunlight or corrosive materials.

Nylon and Polyester

- WIPE off all surface dirt with a sponge dampened in plain water. Rinse sponge and squeeze it dry. Dip the sponge in a mild solution of water and commercial soap or detergent. Work up a thick lather with a vigorous back and forth motion.
- **RINSE** webbing in clean water.
- **WIPE** the belt dry with a clean cloth. Hang freely to dry, but away from excessive heat.

Cotton

- CLEAN like nylon. For heavy dirt or grease, soak belts in a solution of one tablespoon of grease cutter to one gallon of water. Consult supplier.
- After soaking, rinse again; then hang to dry.