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# **SAFETY DIRECT LTD.**

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## ***Fall Protection Equipment Manufacturer***

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### **CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF FULL BODY HARNESSES.**

Harnesses used in Fall Protection service must be inspected, maintained and stored properly, by following the instructions in this pamphlet. Failure to follow these instructions could result in serious deterioration and/or premature failure of the harness.

1. Harnesses should be stored in a clean and dry area and should not be exposed to excessive heat, sunlight, harmful fumes or corrosive materials.
2. Harnesses should be stored by suspension from the rear D-ring whenever possible or by packing them loosely in a suitable container.
3. Before storing the soiled harnesses should be cleaned by wiping with a damp sponge, for stubborn stains use a mild soap solution. Rinse the soap solution off the harness with plain water and hang to air dry. Harnesses should not be treated with chemicals, solvents or harsh detergents under any circumstances. Harnesses that have been wiped should not be dried using forced air or direct heat.
4. Any harness that has been identified as needing scheduled maintenance should be tagged and removed from service until the maintenance has been completed.
5. Any repairs to the harness must be made by a service agent approved by Safety Direct Ltd.
6. After a harness has been subjected to a fall incident it should be removed from service immediately and should not be used for fall arrest service unless it has been inspected and approved by a qualified safety officer or safety engineer. Any harness designated as been unfit for future use in fall arrest should be destroyed.

### **INSPECTION.**

1. The harness must be inspected by the user before each use and should be inspected thoroughly by a designated competent person on a regular basis at least once every year. Any harness removed from service for inspection should be tagged and should not be used until the inspection and any necessary repairs or maintenance has been completed.
2. The full length of all the webbing should be inspected both visually and by passing the webbing through the hands. Both sides and the edges of the web should be checked for any worn sections, cuts, frayed sections, burns or damaged fibers. Particular attention should be paid to those portions of the web that have been in contact with any metal buckles or other components.

3. The condition of any plastic components should be ascertained to determine if there are any cracks or deformation present. Any missing or damaged plastic keepers should be replaced before returning the harness to fall arrest service.
4. The harness should be removed from service if any of the following conditions are found:
  - If the harness has been subjected to a fall arrest.
  - If the labels are illegible or missing.
  - If any metallic components exhibit any evidence of defects or damage, including deformation, cracks, burrs, corrosion, alteration, abuse or excessive wear.
  - If there is any evidence that any component has been altered or has functioned improperly.
  - If there is any evidence of visual damage to any of the plastic components including burns, melting or cracks.
  - If there is any evidence that the stitching has been damaged, broken, frayed or is missing entirely.
5. When the harness has been removed from service following a periodic inspection due to defects or damage it must have any necessary maintenance performed, and then be re-inspected by a designated competent person before being returned to fall arrest service.
6. Only persons authorized in writing by Safety Direct Ltd. shall make repairs to the harness. Harnesses for repair should be returned to the manufacturer with a written report of your inspection.

**ALTERATION OR ADAPTATION OF ANY PORTION OF THE HARNESS WILL VOID ANY WARRANTY OR GUARANTEE WRITTEN OR IMPLIED. ALTERATION OF A HARNESS MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.**

**Fall Protection You Can Live With®**

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