

GUARDIAN

FALL PROTECTION

Life Expectancy of Guardian Fall Protection Harnesses and Lanyards

In order to comply with ANSI A10.14 standards, Guardian Harnesses and Lanyards are required to be removed from service 5 years beginning with the date of first use. This guideline should not be used in place of the inspection and maintenance criteria included in the instruction manuals accompanying each item. This guideline applies only to products that have not been impacted in a fall, show no apparent damage, and have not been exposed to harsh elements such as chemicals, extreme temperatures, prolonged moisture, or excessive ultra-violet light. It may be necessary to remove a harness or lanyard from service at any earlier date depending on the inspection evaluation.

Each harness and lanyard ships with its own specific instructions, inspection and cleaning criteria that must be reviewed, understood, and followed. In addition, each item should be visually inspected prior to use and inspected annually by a *Competent* person (as defined by OSHA) other than the user and according to OSHA and ANSI regulations (self-retracting lifelines must be inspected monthly by a *Competent* person other than the user).

It is the end user that is responsible for determining when a harness or lanyard is no longer fit for use and must be removed from service. Equipment that is removed from service must be disposed of in a manner that prevents inadvertent further use.

Inspection of harnesses & lanyards should be recurrent in order to determine whether or not an item is fit for use. The following system applies:

1. User must inspect before each use.
2. For self-retracting lifelines only – A *Competent* person other than the user must inspect & record monthly.
3. A *Competent* person other than the user must inspect and record annually.
4. For self-retracting lifelines only – A factory authorized service center must re-certify and record annually.

Note: Always follow the manufacturer's directions/recommendations for the inspection requirements of the equipment currently in use. Train all employees to inspect personal fall arrest equipment before each use (Inspection considerations see OSHA Appendix C of Subpart M).

*activation date is defined as the time when a product is first put into service (initially or after service/repair/re-certification).