



Mine Safety Appliances Company • P.O. Box 426 • Pittsburgh, PA 15230

Telephone: (412) 967-3000

Writers Direct Dial No.

Inspection Advisory

Dyna-Lock[®] Self-Retracting Lanyard – 20ft. Models

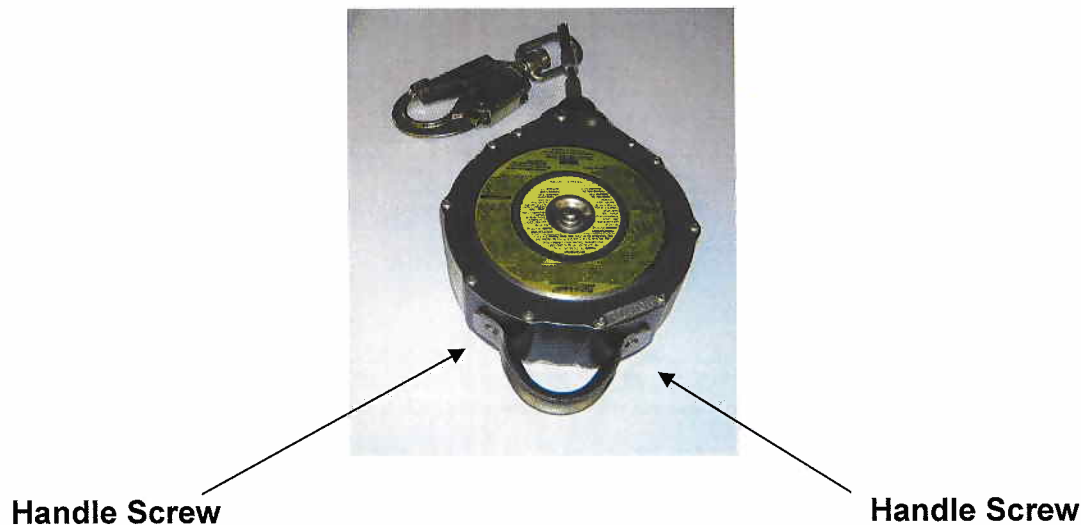
August 6, 2008

MSA recently received a report that the attachment handle on a 20 ft. Dyna-Lock Self-Retracting Lanyard (SRL) became loose and separated from the unit. Although the user was not injured, our inspection of the unit revealed that the ends of the two screws securing the handle were not swaged (flattened) as intended by our housing/handle supplier. The swaging process prevents the screws, which are installed from inside the housing, from unthreading. If a handle screw unthreads due to vibration or other means, the handle could detach from the housing and cause the SRL to separate from the anchorage resulting in loss of fall protection.

As a result of this report, we inspected other SRLs that utilize the same or similar handle design and found less than 5% of the units inspected contained handle screws that were not swaged. All of the units found with unswaged handle screws were manufactured or last serviced between October 2007 and June 2008.

As a result of this finding, MSA requests that users receiving this Inspection Advisory immediately inspect the 20 ft. Dyna-Lock SRLs in their possession to determine if the screws securing the handle are swaged. Any units with unswaged screws (one or both) must be removed from service and returned to MSA for repair. The repair and the shipping are free of charge. Units not exhibiting this condition may remain in use.

The photo below identifies by the arrows the location of the two handle screws to be inspected:



LOCATION: RIDC Industrial Park • 121 Gamma Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15238

Dyna-Lock SRL – 20ft. models are identified with the following MSA part numbers: 506619, 506615, 10017931, 10006446, 10006447, and 10017933. Although unswaged screws were only found on units manufactured or last serviced from October 2007 to June 2008, the current supplier has manufactured the housing/handle assembly for MSA since April 2005. As a precaution, this advisory is being sent to users who purchased units manufactured or last serviced from April 2005 through June 2008. Purchasers of units serviced during this time period are included since they may have received replacement housing/handle assemblies made by the same supplier. The date of manufacture and date of last service are identified on a label affixed to the side of the unit.

When inspecting 20ft. Dyna-Lock handle screws, compare them with the photos below. These photos illustrate the ends of a swaged (flattened) screw and an unswaged screw. Note that the swaged screw appears flattened; whereas, the unswaged screw has a cup shape appearance with a raised edge:



Good – Swaged (flattened) Screw



Bad – Unswaged (cup shaped) Screw

Upon inspection, if any units are found to have unswaged screws (one or both), immediately remove the unit from service. Complete the attached shipping form and return the unit and the shipping form to MSA at the address provided below:

MSA
2250 South Tejon St.
Englewood, CO 80110-1000

If shipping from within the U.S., ship via UPS using account # 787E62. The telephone number for the UPS form is 303-922-6246. If shipping from outside the U.S., include a copy of the shipping receipt in the document sleeve of the package or mail separately (with identification) to MSA at the above address and MSA will provide reimbursement. Each shipment must contain a completed MSA Shipping Form.

When receiving a unit with the above described condition, MSA will replace the housing/handle assembly and also perform a general inspection and cleaning of the unit (minimum service) free of charge. Returned units will be repaired and express shipped back to the customer within approximately three business days of receipt.

MSA regrets any inconvenience that this situation may cause; however, we trust that you will accept the indicated measures to address this potential safety concern. If you have any questions, please contact MSA Customer Service at 1-800-MSA-2222 or 412-967-3000.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles J. Seibel, Jr.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.
Manager of Product Safety



Shipping Form

Dyna-Lock[®] Self-Retracting Lanyard – 20ft. Models

ENCLOSE A COPY OF THIS FORM WITH EACH SHIPMENT OF
DYNA-LOCK SRLs BEING RETURNED

Please fill in your return shipping address:

To: Company _____
Division _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____

MSA Shipping Address:

MSA
2250 S. Tejon Street
Englewood, CO 80110-1000

If shipping from within the U.S., ship via UPS using account # 787E62. The telephone number for the UPS form is 888-737-7339. If shipping from outside the U.S., include a copy of the shipping receipt in the document sleeve of the package or mail separately (with identification) to MSA at the above address and MSA will provide reimbursement. Each shipment must contain a completed MSA Shipping Form. Units with unswaged screws will be repaired, inspected, cleaned and express shipped back to the customer within approximately three business days of receipt.

Quantity of Dyna-Lock SRLs returned with this shipment: _____

Customer Name: _____

Phone: _____ Fax _____

E-Mail: _____ Date _____

Please contact MSA Customer Service at 1-800-MSA-2222 or 412-967-3000 with any questions.