

**DuPage County Environmental, Safety, Health & Property Loss Control Program  
Safety Harness and Lanyard Inspection/Maintenance**

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**Policy:** Inspect a minimum of daily before use. Do not use if it needs repair or replacement instead give to Supervisor explaining what is wrong with the harness. If used in a Fall Arrest then it must be destroyed.

Should be hung or laid flat in a clean area, dry and free from exposure to fumes, sunlight and corrosives.

Refer to manufactures expiration requirements.

ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Needs Repair  Replace

**WEBBING**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inspection Procedures:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Grasp the webbing with hands 6” – 8” apart.</li> <li>2. Bend the webbing in an inverted “U”.</li> <li>3. Follow this procedure the entire length of the webbing.</li> <li>4. Inspect both sides of webbing.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to Look For:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Frayed Edges</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Cuts</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Broken Fibers</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Burns</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Pulled Stitches</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Chemical Damage</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Frayed Edges	<input type="radio"/> Cuts	<input type="radio"/> Broken Fibers	<input type="radio"/> Burns	<input type="radio"/> Pulled Stitches	<input type="radio"/> Chemical Damage
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**D – RINGS / BACK PADS**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inspection Procedures:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. D-Ring should pivot freely.</li> <li>2. Inspect D-Ring back pads for damage.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to Look For:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Distortion</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Cracks</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Rough or Sharp Edges</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Breaks</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Distortion	<input type="radio"/> Cracks	<input type="radio"/> Rough or Sharp Edges	<input type="radio"/> Breaks
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**ATTACHMENT OF BUCKLES**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inspection Procedures:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Give special attention to attachment of buckles and D-Ring</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to Look For:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Unusual Wear</td> <td><input type="radio"/> Frayed/Cut Fibers</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Distorted Buckles or D-Rings</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Unusual Wear	<input type="radio"/> Frayed/Cut Fibers	<input type="radio"/> Distorted Buckles or D-Rings	
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**TONGUE / GROMMETS**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inspection Procedures:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Heavy wear area. Pay special attention.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to Look For:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Loose, distorted or broken grommets</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Webbing should NOT have additional punched holes</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Loose, distorted or broken grommets	<input type="radio"/> Webbing should NOT have additional punched holes
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**TONGUE BUCKLE**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inspection Procedures:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Buckle tongues should overlap buckle frames.</li> <li>2. Tongues should move freely back and forth in their socket.</li> <li>3. Roller should turn freely on frame.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to Look For:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Distortion in shape and motion of tongue</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Distortion or sharp edges on roller</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Distortion in shape and motion of tongue	<input type="radio"/> Distortion or sharp edges on roller
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**FRICITION AND MATING BUCKLES**

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Inspection Procedures:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Give special attention to corners and attachment points of center bar.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>What to Look For:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Buckle Distortion</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="radio"/> Are outer and center bars straight</td> </tr> </table>	<input type="radio"/> Buckle Distortion	<input type="radio"/> Are outer and center bars straight
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**Visual Indications of Damage to Harness / Lanyard Webbing**

Type of Webbing	Heat	Chemical	Molten Metal or Flame	Paint and Solvents
Nylon, Polyester	In excessive heat, nylon becomes brittle and has a shriveled brownish appearance. Fibers will break when flexed. Should not be exposed to temperatures above 180° F (°c)	Change in color usually appearing as a brownish smear or smudge. Transverse cracks when bent over a mandrel. Loss of elasticity.	Webbing strands fuse together. Hard shiny spots. Hard and brittle feel	Paint which penetrates and dries restricts movement of fibers. Drying agents and solvents in some paints cause chemical damage.

***NOTE: Lanyards made of nylon or polyester rope will show the same visual indications of damage as nylon or polyester webbing. or polyester webbing.***

**CLEANING**

Basic care of all safety equipment will prolong the durable life of the equipment and will contribute toward the performance of its vital safety function. Proper storage and maintenance after use are as important as cleansing the equipment of dirt, corrosives, or contaminants. Storage areas should be clean, dry and free of exposure to fumes or corrosive elements.

**NYLON and POLYESTER**

- Wipe off surface dirt with sponge dampened in plain water.
- Dip sponge in mild solution of water & commercial soap or detergent.
- In a back and forth motion, work up a thick lather.
- Wipe with clean cloth.
- Hang freely to dry, but away from excessive heat.

**DRYING**

Equipment should dry thoroughly without close exposure to heat, steam, or long periods of sunlight.