

SAFETY ALERT

Shared Learning's

INCIDENT TITLE:

Harness Housekeeping

TIME AND DATE OF INCIDENT:

August / September Wind Rescue Training

INCIDENT DETAIL :

On two separate occasions during recent Wind Rescue Training it was identified that one side of the harness waist strap (see photo below) was either undone or well on the way to becoming undone.

While the Petzl Volt harness is a quality wind specific harness, it is clearly evident that like any heights PPE, it requires thorough pre-use inspection.

In one of the cases the issue was identified on the hardstand ahead of entering the turbine. In the other case, the issue was only identified once at height, but prior to the harness being loaded up during a rescue.

LEARNINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THIS INCIDENT:

- **Pre-Use Inspections** - these need to be completed prior to putting the harness on.
- **Buddy Checks** – this is about looking after your work mate and a good way to identify issues once the harness is on. This needs to be done prior to working at height and during the course of the day
- **Harness Size** – make sure the harness is the correct size. Straps should not be at their length limit.
- **Harness Fit** – ensure the harness is adequately tensioned prior to use.

INITIAL RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES :

- Rectified the immediate issue and ensured that the harness was secure and tensioned correctly.
- Discussed possible cause, including how well the harness was tensioned and how well the harness fitted.
- Discussed issue with harness supplier who has agreed to investigate further and revert to the manufacturer for comment and advice.

PHOTO:



The Corporate Safety and Health Team are currently working on systems to support the above learnings. If interested in viewing the full investigation report for this incident, it can be found in:

For further information refer to Safety Manager item #795187 or contact Murray Hill (021 892 523) or Bobby Ball (027 706 6308)



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