

Fall Protection Experts



Technical Bulletin

No. MISC002, Rev. E

Subject: Product Life Date: February 1998

The current DBI/SALA policy on the life of products is totally dependent on the condition of the item and not the age. A DBI/SALA product can be used as long as the inspection performed does not reveal any damage, wear, or other characteristics that will effect the product's performance.

The inspection of the product shall be performed according to details outlined in the user instruction manual on the specific product as well as other applicable information provided by DBI/SALA. The frequency of inspections to determine the usability of the product shall be as follows:

- Inspect before each use (by user).
- 2. Monthly (by competent person other than user) (for winches, RPD's, Rescumatics, tripods, davit arms) (recorded).
- 3. Annually (by competent person other than the user) (recorded).

After a fall, the product shall be removed from service and destroyed (or used for educational purposes). After a fall, Self-Retracting Lifelines (SRL's) shall be inspected and serviced (if required, see user instructions) by factory authorized service center.

Inspection and servicing frequency may need to be modified based on the amount of use and the conditions within the environment the product is used in.

Current OSHA and ANSI regulations indicate the following regarding inspection of equipment:

OSHA 1910.66 *Remove impacted systems and components.

*Inspect systems prior to use.

OSHA 1926.502 *Remove impacted systems and components.

*Inspect systems prior to use.

ANSI Z359.1-1992 *Comply with manufacturer's instructions.

*Inspection by user prior to use.

*Inspect at least annually by competent person.

All equipment found to be unusable shall be tagged as rejected and pulled out of service. Copies of user instructions and other available inspection information can be obtained from DBI/SALA.

Activation Date

Typically the date of manufacture on a product or the date of purchase is used to help determine when a product is due for inspection. The date of the products first use can also be used as an activation date.

The activation date is defined as the time when a product is first put into actual service (initally or after service/repair).

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If inspection timing is based on the activation date instead of the manufacture date, service date or purchase date, the activation date should be recorded in the user instruction manual in the inspection and maintenance log under the inspection date column (or record/document in some manner). Indicate that the entry is date of first use (or activation date).

If the activation date is unknown, the product purchase date, service date, or manufacture date should be used to determine when product is due for inspection.

Prior to placing a product into service that product shall be properly stored according to the user instruction manual.

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