FrenchCreek FALL SAFETY

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User Instructions - #1201N – 5/8" Trailing Rope Grab

This document serves as the Manufacturer's Instructions, and is to be used as part of an employee training program for the system, as required by OSHA.

ATTENTION: The user MUST be trained before using this product. Use this manual as part of a user safety training program that is appropriate for the user's occupation. These instructions must be provided to users before use of the product and retained for ready reference by the user The user must read, understand (or have explained), and follow all instructions, labels, markings and warnings supplied with this product and with those products intended for use in association with it FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

*****Warning: Read, understand, and follow all instructions. Failure to do so may result in serious injury or death. Do not use unless properly trained. It is the employer's responsibility to ensure that all users are properly trained in the proper use, inspection, and maintenance of fall protection equipment.**

*****Warning: FrenchCreek 1201N rope grabs are designed to be used with 5/8" diameter three strand synthetic lifelines having a minimum tensile strength of 5,000 lbs. Nylon, polyester, or blended ropes containing nylon or polyester are recommended. Polypropylene ropes are not recommended. To ensure compatibility, FrenchCreek recommends that the lifeline bears the FrenchCreek label and the diameter matches that marked on the grab.**

PERSONAL FALL ARREST SYSTEM COMPONENTS: FCP's safety equipment is designed for use with FrenchCreek approved components and subsystems. Other components may be incompatible, which could directly affect the safety and reliability of the entire system and could lead to serious injury or death. Substitutions with ANSI compliant components should only be made under the supervision of a competent person and none of the components or subsystems can interfere with the intended function of the system. Substitutions or replacements made with non-ANSI Z359 compliant components or subsystems may jeopardize compatibility of equipment and may affect the safety and reliability of the complete system.

Personal fall arrest components used with FCP's equipment/system must meet all applicable OSHA and ANSI requirements. The complete personal fall arrest system and connecting subsystem(s) must limit fall arrest forces to 1,800 lbs. or less with an average force less than 1,350 lbs.

General Requirements

- Users shall be provided with all instructions and warnings. These warnings and instructions must be read and understood prior to using the equipment.
- This product is designed for personal fall protection. Never use fall protection equipment for purposes other than which it was designed and intended for.
- This device must only be used by trained personnel.
- Users must be physically and mentally fit, in good health, and must not have a medical history of conditions that could be aggravated by a fall. Pregnant women and minors must not use this product.
- Users must reference ANSI Z359.1 and all applicable regulatory standards pertaining to occupational safety.
- All equipment must be visually inspected prior to each use. A more thorough inspection procedure is recommended by a competent individual on a regular basis (at intervals or no more than year). Refer to the inspection criteria for more details.
- A competent person must ensure system compatibility to minimize the potential for accidental disengagement.
- Equipment must not be altered in any way. Repairs or modifications must be performed only by the equipment manufacturer or persons authorized in writing by the manufacturer.
- Any products exhibiting deformities, unusual wear, deterioration, or not passing inspection must be immediately removed from service.
- Any products subjected to fall arresting forces must be removed from service.
- Fall arrest systems must be rigged to limit the free fall distance to 6' or less and ensure that no lower level is struck.
- Fall arrest systems, when stopping a fall, must limit the maximum arresting force to 1800 lbs. or less. Forces experienced during a fall as well as prolonged suspension may cause bodily injury. In order to minimize this risk of injury, the user shall have a rescue plan and the means at hand to implement it when using this equipment.
- Always check for obstructions below the work area to make sure the potential fall path is clear. Remember that shock-absorbers can elongate up to 3 ½'.
- Environmental hazards must be considered when selecting fall protection equipment. Equipment must not be exposed to chemicals which may have a damaging effect. All synthetic materials must be protected from slag, hot sparks, open flames, or other heat sources.
- This product should not be used around moving machinery, electrical hazards, sharp edges, and abrasive surfaces.
- The maximum working load is 310 lbs. unless otherwise labeled.

Connecting Devices Warnings

- Tie off in a manner that will limit the free fall to the shortest possible distance (6' max.) and ensure that a lower level will not be struck should a fall occur. Shock-absorbers can elongate up to 3 ½'. This additional elongation must be considered when choosing a tie-off point.
- Do not use lanyards or lifelines with non-locking snap hooks or connectors.

- Always visually check to ensure the snap hooks freely engage the d-ring or anchorage point and that its keepers are completely closed and locked and are never load bearing.
- Do not attach multiple lanyards or lifelines together or tie them back onto themselves unless they are specifically designed for such a connection.
- Do not allow synthetic materials to come in contact with high temperature surfaces, welding, heat sources, electrical hazards, or moving machinery.
- Do not tie knots in lanyards and lifelines or wrap them around sharp, rough edges, or small diameter structural members. Use a cross arm strap or other compatible anchorage connector.
- Never use a steel cable lanyard or lifeline for fall arrest unless it used in conjunction with a shock-absorber. The use of a shock-absorber for fall arrest applications is strongly recommended regardless of the type of lanyard or lifeline.
- Never tie off to an object that is not compatible. Make sure that snap hook keepers are never load bearing.

Anchorages

- Anchorages must be capable of supporting 5,000 lbs. per worker, or be designed, installed and used as part of system which maintains a safety factor of at least 2:1 under the supervision of a qualified person.
- Always work directly under the anchor point to avoid swing fall hazards.
- Make sure the anchor point is at a height that limits the free fall distance to 6' or less and ensures that no lower level is struck.
- The anchor point must be compatible with the connecting device (snap hook or carabiner) and must not be capable of causing a load to be applied to the keepers.
- Never use an anchor point that will not allow the snap hook or carabiner gate to close completely.

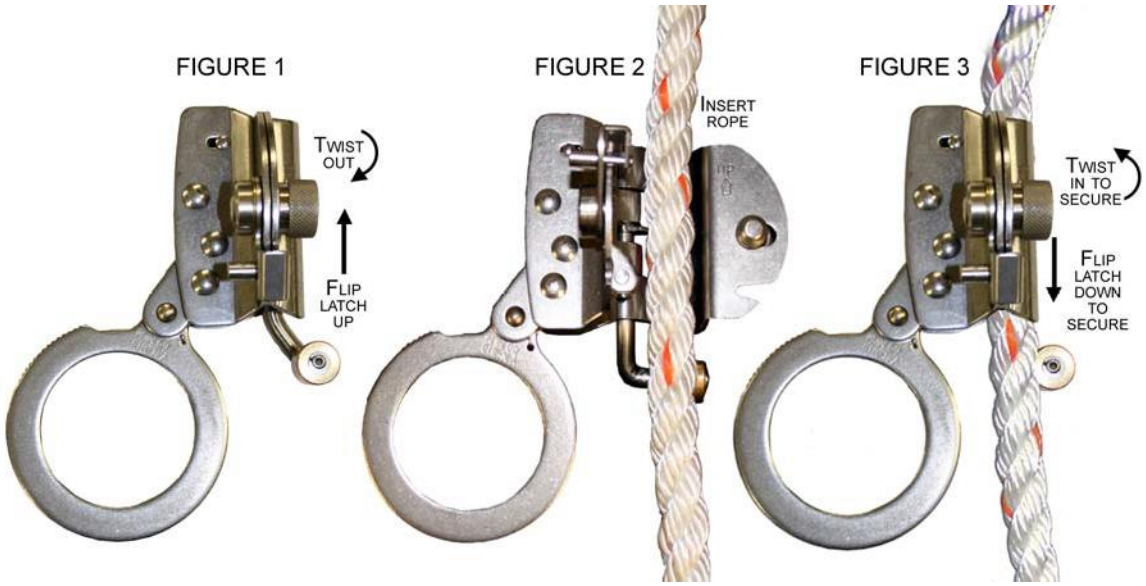
Installation

Installation of FrenchCreek 1201N rope grab is to be made on only 5/8" approved lifelines. The lifelines must be of a 3 strand construction designed specifically for use with FrenchCreek rope grabs. The lifeline must have a 5,000 lbs. minimum tensile strength and be connected to a compatible anchorage capable of supporting 5,000 lbs. or be part of a designed system which provides at least a 2:1 safety factor as determined by a qualified individual.

*****Note: It is recommended that the bottom end of the lifeline be weighted or tied off to assist in the positioning of the rope grab.**

*****Warning: It is recommended that the bottom end of the lifeline be constructed with a splice, loop, or knot that will prevent the grab from accidentally detaching from the lifeline.**

1. Open the latch and unscrew the thumbscrew allowing the grab side plates to open.
2. Install on the lifeline (with the arrow pointing up toward the anchorage) and close the side plates around the lifeline. Note: It may be necessary to lift up on the cam lever to allow the side plates to close completely.
3. Tighten the thumbscrew until snug and ensure there is no gap between the side plates.
4. Close the latch mechanism.
5. Refer to the illustration below for clarification.



Making Lanyard Connections

1. Connect the lanyard snap hook to the back d-ring on the full body harness. The energy absorber portion of the lanyard (if so equipped) should be closest to the body.

2. Connect the other end of the lanyard to the rope grab attachment ring or pin. Connections must be compatible with regards to size, shape, and strength. Refer to the instructions supplied with the lanyard for proper installation and use. Note: Some FrenchCreek rope grab models come equipped with a permanently attached lanyard.

***Warning: Free fall distances must be kept to 6' or less.**

Inspection & Maintenance

FrenchCreek products must be visually inspected before each use and regularly by a competent person (at intervals of no more than a year) as part of a documented safety program. Inspect the product daily for any of the conditions explained in this manual. If any of these conditions are present, the product should immediately be removed from service unless deemed useable by a competent person.

Inspection Criteria

Inspect the grab for distortions, cracks, corrosion, or pitting of the metal surfaces. All moving parts should work freely and not bind. Open the grab and carefully inspect the cams and cam spring for signs of damage or excessive wear. The teeth or serrations on the cam face should be noticeably present and the cam spring must be functioning properly.

Careful attention should be given to the thumbscrew and latch mechanism. The thumb screw should completely engage the threaded portion of the grab. The latch must close upon complete engagement of the thumb screw.

Inspect all other hardware (snap hooks, buckles, carabiners, d-rings, connectors, etc.) for distortions, cracks, corrosion, or pitting of the metal surfaces. Keepers and latches on snap hooks and carabiners should open and close smoothly and completely. Snap hooks and carabiners with locking features must be operational and keep the device from opening. Keeper and latch springs must exert sufficient force to firmly close and lock.

Thimbles in rope and cable lanyards and lifelines must be present and firmly seated into the eye of the splice or crimp. Thimble edges must not have any sharp edges and must be free from distortion and cracks. Ferrules are to be inspected for cracks and distortions

All webbing should be bent over a pipe or mandrel to reveal any cuts, snags, tears, or breaks. Swelling, discoloration, and charring are indication of chemical or heat damage. Inspect all stitching for any loose, pulled, broken, or missing stitches.

Rope lanyards and lifelines are to be rotated during inspection to scan for any fuzzy, worn, broken, or cut fibers. Inspect for burns and discoloration. The rope should have a uniform diameter throughout its length. Inspect the rope splice closely to ensure it is tight. Cable lanyards and lifelines are to be rotated during inspection looking for cuts, frays, kinks, broken stands, or unusual wearing on the cable.

*****Note: An inspection log should be maintained by a competent safety officer, indicating the products that were inspected, their findings, and disposition.**

Cleaning and storage

Basic care of your FrenchCreek products will prolong the life expectancy and maintain its high performance. Wipe off all surface dirt using a dampened sponge and plain water. Use of a commercial detergent is acceptable. Allow the product to air dry and store in a clean, dry area. Do not subject the product to steam or heat in excess of 180 degrees Fahrenheit. Use of degreasing agents is only acceptable providing it has no ill effect on the product. Consult with the manufacturer of the cleaner to ensure it is safe to use.

Inspection and Maintenance Log

DATE OF MANUFACTURE:_____

MODEL NUMBER:_____

DATE PURCHASED:_____

Inspection Date	Inspection Items Noted	Corrective Action Taken	Maintenance Performed
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
Approved By:			
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