Please find below our position regarding our textile Fall Protection PPE's shelf life:

I. <u>Communication on shelf life</u>

Life expectancy of our harnesses / lanyards is 10 years from the date of manufacture. For harnesses or lanyards manufactured after 2000 you can consider the attached document official and retroactive, even if at that time we may have stated in our user guides that the life duration of our harnesses was 5 years. This is due to the fact that the webbing or rope used for our PPE has evolved over the years.

NB : Since end 2010, all our new user manuals state a life expectancy of 10 years.

Please remember that:

- The product must be checked at least once a year by a qualified person. This inspection must be registered.
- Before each use, the product must be visually inspected by the user.

The compulsory annual inspection will be the deciding factor as to whether your PPE should be put back into service or not.

Some factors can contribute to reduce the performance or life expectancy of the product:

- Incorrect stocking
- Incorrect use
- Stopping a fall
- Mechanical deformation or cut
- Contact with chemical products (an acid or a base)
- Exposure to extreme heat sources > 60°C
- Exposure to UV rays

2. Complementary information

BEWARE, an exceptional event can make you remove your product from use after one single use: (type and intensity of use, environment of use, harsh environments, edges, extreme temperatures > 50°, UV rays, incorrect stocking, chemical products...

A Fall Protection PPE must be discarded when:

- It is **10 years old** and is composed **of textile materials**.

- It has been involved in a fall (or effort).
- It is deformed, has an abrasion or it is worn down
- The results of the **compulsory annual inspection** are negative. You have a doubt about its reliability
- You do not know the complete background on the use of this product.

- When its use is obsolete (legislation changes, technical standards or incompatibility with other equipment, etc...)

Destroy this product to avoid future use.

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