



July 27, 2017

RE: Fall Protection Inspection and Service Life

Dear Valued Customer,

Werner Co. fall protection user instructions state all components of the fall protection system must be inspected prior to each use, and at least annually by an OSHA defined “competent person” other than the user. The two-level inspection provides an independent means of determining the condition of the equipment and verify that it is safe for use. Werner Co. does not mandate a 5 year service life for fall protection products.

**OSHA 29 CFR 1910.140** *Personal fall protection systems*

**(c)(18)** Personal fall protection systems must be inspected before initial use during each work shift for mildew, wear, damage, and other deterioration, and defective components must be removed from service.

**OSHA 29 CFR 1926.502** *Fall protection systems criteria and practices*

**(d)(21)** Personal fall arrest systems shall be inspected prior to each use for wear, damage and other deterioration, and defective components shall be removed from service.

**ANSI/ASSE Z359.2-2017** *Minimum Requirements for a Comprehensive Managed Fall Protection Program*

**9.4.2.1** Fall protection equipment shall be inspected by the authorized person before each use to verify that it has not sustained any wear or damage that would require its removal from service.

**9.4.2.2** Fall protection and fall rescue equipment shall be inspected on a regular basis not to exceed one year (or more frequently if deemed necessary or required by the manufacturer’s instructions) by a competent person or a competent rescuer, as appropriate, to verify that the equipment is safe for use. The inspection shall be documented.

**ANSI/ASSE A10.32-2012** *Personal Fall Protection Used in Construction and Demolition Operations*

**7.3.2** Prior to each use, fall protection equipment shall be inspected by the user for defects, damage or deterioration. Any suspected defective equipment shall be removed from service.

**7.3.3** Formal inspections of equipment shall be made by a qualified person on at least a semi-annual basis.

Both ANSI/ASSE A10.32-2012 and ANSI/ASSE Z359.2-2017 require the manufacturer’s instructions to be accessible for review. Werner Co. fall protection user instructions can be accessed online at [www.wernerco.com](http://www.wernerco.com)

Thank you for your continued support and use of Werner Co. fall protection products.

Sincerely,

Michael N. Cameron, QSSP  
Technical Service - Fall Protection  
Werner Co.

