

	<b>DISTRIBUTION Prohibition Notice</b>	Document Identifier	559-1713336172	Rev	1	
		Effective Date	March 2025			
		Review Date	February 2028			

**NOTE: OHS Section 29 provides a legal framework for the enforcement of safety standards, and grants OHS inspectors the authority to act decisively to protect employees with the issuance of the Prohibition Notice in response to dangerous conditions in the workplace.**

Date of Issue: 23 May 2025	Reference no.: Dx/2025/0002.1
Full name(s) of OHS Subject Matter Expert: Randall Clifford Williams	Telephone no.: 0784517821

It is my assessment that the circumstances specified below threaten or are likely to threaten the safety of individuals, operations, plant, equipment, systems, etc.

Description of threat/hazardous situation:

The updated information provided below results from ongoing consultations with Dr. Jacques Calitz, Mike Voudouris, Freddy Werner, and Morne van Heerden, as well as further testing of the Personal Protective Equipment (fall arrest system) described.

**SABS test reports received from the supplier.**

The two test reports from SABS (dated 2021 and 2024), which were used by the manufacturer, who also acts as the supplier, did not cover the adjustment device (floating buckle). As a result, the fall arrest system kits were produced without being fully covered by the scope of these test reports.

**FAS test results**

The Multiquip Ironman FAS kits were tested on numerous occasions to test the safety factor of the Fall arrest systems.

**Analysis of the test reports indicated the following:**

Of the three lanyards received, the floating buckle was made from three different materials: aluminium alloy, steel, and stainless steel, suggesting three distinct design modifications that lacked supporting test certificates.

**The outcomes of the tests were as follows:**

The Static tests conducted by RT&D on 24 April 2025 revealed the following:

1. RTD/MECH-IN/25/1389 – The remaining lanyard leg of the lanyard that failed was tested. The buckle was manufactured from aluminium alloy and failed at 3.15 kilonewtons (kN), the failure mode was similar to the incident failure.
2. RTD/MECH-IN/25/1390 – Live line lanyard manufactured in 2025 (Model: Live L-2, SN: R-006) with stainless steel buckle. The stitching failed at 9.74 kN.
3. RTD/MECH-IN/25/1391 – Second leg of lanyard R-006. Stitching failed at 9.31 kN.

**Dynamic Tests conducted on 20 May 2025 at the Tower testing station at Rosherville:**

1. First Test: A completely new Fall Arrest System (FAS) failed when the stitching connecting the lanyard legs to the energy absorber came undone, causing the 100kg test weight to fall to the ground. The energy absorber did not deploy during the test.

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2. Second Test: This test involved the FAS used by the second employee in the fall-from-height (FFH) incident. The failure occurred at the adjustment device (floating buckle), which broke in the same manner as it did during the incident at NWOU. The energy absorber did not deploy during the test.
3. Third Test: The final test evaluated the harness, which essentially split into two when the stitching failed under testing conditions.

**Disclaimer:** The dynamic test with the dummy will be conducted on 27 May 2025 at the Tower testing station at Rosherville.

### FAS Supplier evaluation

In addition to the dynamic and static tests, a FAS supplier evaluation was also carried out at EAL on 24 April 2025. The results of the evaluation were as follows:

1. Multiquip were the only Manufacturer being evaluated.
2. Safety lanyard, it had the same Model number as the one that failed, but the buckle component had been changed completely (SL should now have a new Model number),
3. There were no SABS test certificates, but the components had the various SANS 50354/355 marking on them, which is not correct, since there is a new/different design component included to the lanyard..

I hereby prohibit the following:

1. All Multiquip Fall Arrest Systems manufactured after 28 May 2020, shall be prohibited from being used in Eskom Distribution and its projects with immediate effect.

### Rating description of the non-compliance

4

- Pervasive instances of ineffectiveness in relation to internal controls tested (effectiveness testing).
- Gaps in internal controls have a material pervasive impact on the control environment (adequacy testing).
- Findings are critical, and significant time, effort, and cost may be required to remediate them.
- The recommendation must be fully complied with.

### Recommendations for immediate and urgent attention:

1. Prohibit the use of all Multiquip FAS in Eskom Distribution and its contractors doing work for Eskom.
2. When procuring FAS equipment, the following minimum requirements shall be explicitly specified in the contractual conditions and explicitly considered during the tender evaluation stage of the commercial process:
  - a) All potential suppliers, before they are listed on the Eskom Supplier Database, must comply with the relevant South African National and International Standards for FAS

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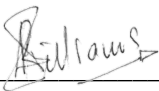
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equipment, as contained in 240-100979499 Eskom Personal Protection for Working at Height Specification.

- b) Eskom Distribution will assign its panel of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to perform a physical evaluation/assessment before any potential supplier is added to the Eskom Database, and their manufacturing plants will be subjected to the same stringent evaluation/assessment process.
- c) All suppliers and manufacturers on the Eskom supplier database shall supply design specifications for their FAS equipment as and when requested.
- d) All test reports and/or certificates for every integral part of the FAS equipment shall be submitted.
- e) All existing suppliers of FAS equipment shall provide Eskom Distribution with the test reports for their FAS equipment for compliance verification and the manufacturing plants need to be evaluated by the Eskom Distribution verification team for FAS suppliers.

This prohibition notice will be revoked or amended after effective risk elimination/reduction strategies are implemented to eliminate or significantly mitigate the specified threats.

<p>Full name(s) of issuer:</p> <p>Randall Williams</p> <p>Signature:</p>  <p>Telephone no.: 0784517821</p> <p>Date: 23 May 2025</p>	<p>Full name(s) of recipient: General Manager</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Telephone no.:</p> <p>Date: 23 May 2025</p> <p><b>Important to note:</b></p> <p>GM to write name above and sign.</p> <p>The signed copy should be returned to the issuer for record keeping purposes.</p>
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Attachment: Section A of the attachment

(Initial information shared during the first prohibition notice)

Attachment: Section B of the attachment

(Tests conducted on 24 April 2025 at RT&D by Dr Jacques Calitz and the Test results conducted on 20 May 2025 at the Tower testing station in Rosherville)

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