



Mine Safety Appliances Company • P.O. Box 426 • Pittsburgh, PA 15230

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Important Service Advisory

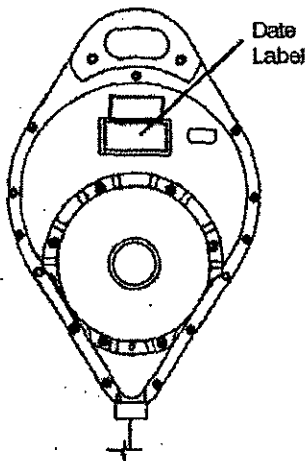
**Redpoint™ and Auto-Belay Descenders
Part Numbers 10024873 and 10021806**

January 4, 2002

To Users of the Redpoint and Auto-Belay Descenders:

MSA has recently completed an investigation of a report of a failure of the carabiner attached to a Redpoint Descender. This carabiner is identified by the manufacturer's marking "ISC UK KH251". Our findings indicate that the swivel eye of the carabiner separated from the carabiner body when the spring-locking pin that secures the retaining nut came out, allowing the retaining nut to loosen.

Due to the results of our investigation, all affected Redpoint and Auto-Belay Descenders must be returned for replacement of the carabiner. The ISC UK KH251 carabiner will be replaced with a carabiner of a slightly different design. **Descenders manufactured or serviced after December 1, 2001 are not affected by this Advisory.** The date of manufacture and last factory service date can be found on the back of the Redpoint and Auto Belay Descenders (See Diagram below). Contact MSA Rose Service and Repair at 1-888-737-7339 to schedule your return arrangements.



If you have shows or other events scheduled that would be impacted by an immediate return of your unit(s), you may temporarily delay the return as long as you perform the inspection steps on the following page prior to each climb. If at any time the spring-locking pin is observed to be missing or protruding above the surface of the nut (Figure

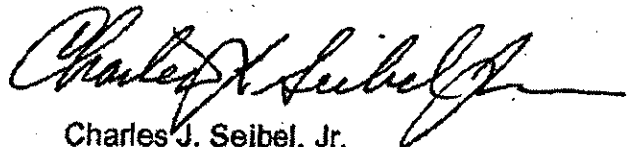
LOCATION: RIDC Industrial Park • 121 Gamma Drive • Pittsburgh, PA 15238

1 (b)), immediately stop using the descender and return it to MSA Rose. Although MSA provides this temporary use method, we recommend that you return your units for the above service as soon as possible.

To help mitigate this inconvenience to you, MSA is offering a free annual re-certification for all affected descender products. All returned units will also be upgraded to the latest revision of that particular product (Auto-Belay cable units WILL NOT be upgraded to Redpoint web units).

We are confident that our corrective measures appropriately address this safety concern. If you have any questions, please contact us toll-free at 1-888-737-7339.

Very truly yours,

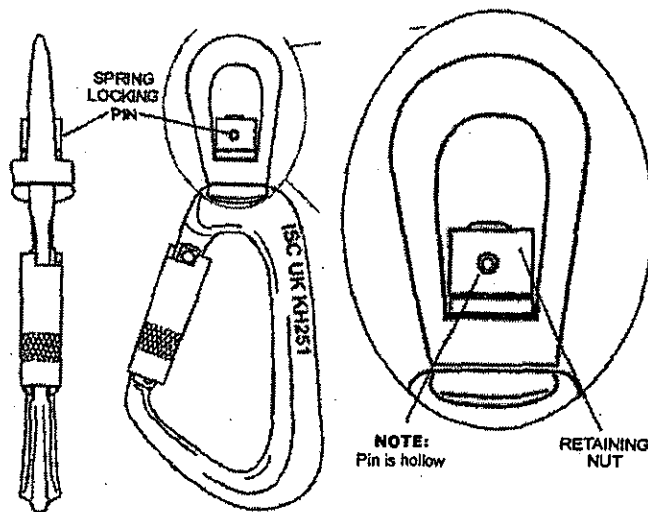
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles J. Seibel, Jr.", written in black ink.

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.
Manager of Product Safety

The Following Check Must be Performed Prior to Each Climb:

WARNING
IF THIS CHECK REVEALS AN INCORRECT PIN CONDITION, STOP USING THE DESCENT DEVICE IMMEDIATELY AS THERE IS A RISK OF SERIOUS INJURY.

Check that the spring-locking pin in the swivel eye retaining nut is present and in the correct position. The pin should be below the level of the hole, or level with the hole. Note: Earlier versions of this carabiner have a hole drilled all the way through the nut and therefore the pin needs to be checked from both sides. Please see diagrams 1(a) and 1(b) (below) for correct and incorrect pin locations.

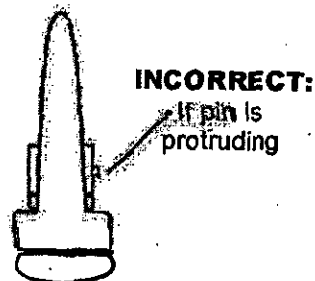
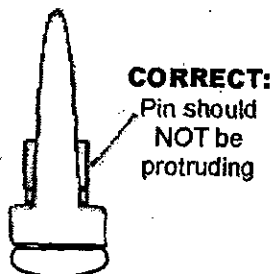


1(a) CORRECT

The end of pin is level with or below the surface of the nut.

1(b) INCORRECT

The pin is missing, or as shown below, the end of the pin sticks out above the surface of the nut.



If the pin is missing or if the end of the pin sticks out of the hole, immediately stop using the descent device and return it to MSA Rose.