

Technical Bulletin

No. SRL004AU
Release Date: 01/2007

Subject: Tag Lines for Self-Retracting Lifelines

Capital Safety recommends that a tag line be used to allow a self-retracting lifeline (SRL) to fully retract back into the housing during extended periods of non-use. A retracting line that is paid out for extended periods of time may cause premature weakening of the SRL's retraction spring, therefore, affecting the operation of the SRL.

1. A tag line is a separate line that is used exclusively for allowing the SRL's line to retract back into the housing during non-use. The tag line is attached to the SRL's connecting hook and is long enough to allow the SRL line to retract in fully.
2. An extended period of time is defined as anything greater than a 24-hour period.
3. When using a tag line, it should be controlled as the SRL's line is retracted back into the housing. Do not allow the tag line/SRL line to uncontrollably retract at a high rate of speed.
4. Depending on the work site environment and conditions, it may be necessary to restrain the tag line to prevent interference and entanglement with equipment or machinery.
5. Tag lines shall not be used directly for personal fall arrest, restraint, work position, personnel riding, or rescue applications.
6. Typical tag line materials include small diameter (5mm to 8mm) lightweight ropes made of materials such as polypropylene or nylon.
7. All applicable manufacturers' instructions for the SRL shall be followed.