



Technical Bulletin

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Subject: Use of Rope Grabs in Flat or Sloped Roof Applications

The use of DBI/SALA Rope Grabs (model 5001441, 5001442) on flat or sloped roofs are acceptable as a means of fall protection under most conditions. The following guidelines should be observed and the special conditions noted.

1. The rope grabs must be used on a lifeline, which meets the requirements specified in the user instruction manual (i.e., size, construction, material, and strength).
2. The anchorage point shall be capable of supporting 5,000 pounds for fall arrest or 3,000 pounds for restraint applications. See user instruction manual for additional anchorage strength information. **NOTE:** Restraint anchorage may only be used where there is no possible vertical free fall. Restraint anchorage does not have sufficient strength for fall arrest.
3. The rope grab shall be connected directly to the body support (via locking carabiner) or with a short lanyard (not to exceed three feet in length).
4. Provisions shall be made (i.e., warning lines, monitors, guardrails, etc.) to prevent swing falls from otherwise unprotected roof edges or corners.
5. The lifeline must be protected from contact with sharp or abrasive edges and surfaces.
6. The rope grab locking operation must not be hindered by interference with the roof or objects on the roof surface.
7. Make certain enough clearance exists in the path of the fall to prevent striking an object. See user instructions for additional fall clearance information.
8. The rope grab and the lifeline system shall be positioned to prevent a free fall exceeding six feet (for fall arrest system). Restraint systems do not allow a free fall.
9. Training shall be conducted on the correct care and use, operating characteristics, application limits and consequences of improper use of the rope grab system.
10. All applicable guidelines in the user instruction manual shall be followed.

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