



Technical Bulletin

No. SRL007

Subject: Self-Retracting Lifelines on Drilling and Service Rigs

There is a recognized hazard where the available anchorage and necessary movement of a worker using a self-retracting lifeline (SRL) on a drilling and/or service rig is such that the cable or webbing of an SRL could come in contact with a structural edge of the rig (column and/or girder). The use of DBI/SALA SRL's for fall protection on drilling and/or service rigs(or similar applications where the SRL is not located directly overhead of the work area and the risk of contacting a structural edge is apparent) is acceptable under certain circumstances provided special precautions are taken as described in this bulletin.

The following guidelines must be followed when using SRL's in areas where structural edges are in abundance:

1. Swing fall hazards may exist, especially when working near corners, or out away from the SRL. Added fall clearance distances may be required, depending on the swing fall hazard. Collision with objects during a swing fall should be guarded against.
2. The total fall distance may be greater than if the SRL were mounted directly overhead. Therefore, increased clearance distances will be required to prevent striking a lower level or obstruction.
3. Where the potential to impact on a structural edge exists, a separate in-line energy absorber must be installed between the end of the lifeline and the harness to reduce the arrest forces resulting from falling over an edge. This energy absorber is connected in-line between the harness dorsal d-ring and the SRL's snap hook. If the harness being used does not have an integral shock absorber attached to the rear "D" ring, DBI/SALA and Protecta offers a special model energy absorber (part number 1220362) for this purpose that includes a snap hook on one end and a d-ring on the other to ensure compatible connections can be made. **DO NOT** use energy absorbing lanyards for this purpose. See bulletin SRL002. DBI/SALA also offers a leading edge type SRL that contains heavier wire rope lifeline and a built in energy absorber for added protection against lifeline damage when contact is made with sharp edges.
4. Sharp edges which the lifeline may contact during a fall could cut or damage the SRL's lifeline. Sharp edges must be avoided or covered over. Falls where the lifeline may slide along a sharp edge must be guarded against.
5. All applicable user instruction manuals should be reviewed and followed.
6. Employee training should be conducted to help assure a safe working environment.

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.daneprairie.com>.
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.