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G.Stop



User Instruction Manual

(Original Instructions)
Issue 09

Retractable Fall Arrest
Lifeline

EN 360:2002

Regulation (EU) 2016/425

Regulation (EU) 2016/425
As brought into UK law
and amended.



Issue No: 09
Date: December 2022

EC Type Examination By:

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EU Declaration Of Conformity available at
<https://www.globestock.co.uk/technical/declarations-of-conformity/>

USER INSTRUCTION MANUAL

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1. IMPORTANT NOTICE

READ EQUIPMENT LABELS AND USER INSTRUCTION MANUAL BEFORE USE.

BEFORE USING THIS EQUIPMENT IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT USERS ARE FULLY AWARE OF HOW TO OPERATE THE EQUIPMENT, WHERE IT SHOULD BE USED, WITH A PREDETERMINED ACTION PLAN FOR BOTH THE USE AND RECOVERY SHOULD A FALL OCCUR.

These products have been produced to reduce the risk of injury or death occurring as a result of a fall. **INCORRECT USE could lead to SERIOUS or FATAL INJURY.**

Only one person should be attached to the G.Stop. The equipment user should never be left to work on their own. There must always be another person present to initiate the chosen method of retrieving the user should a fall occur.

The safe use and method of retrieving the user after a fall must be determined during Risk Assessment.

PRIOR TO USE:

The appropriate 'Risk Assessments' should be carried out, considering use and emergency rescue.

Users should be fully conversant with the operation of the equipment.

The 'Before Use Checks' should be performed (see section 3 and the Front Label).

2. G.Stop Retractable Fall Arrest Device

The G.Stop has a tough aluminium housing. Internal components are manufactured from aluminium alloys, stainless steel, steel, bronze, and plastics.



The G.Stop's anchorage shackle must be attached to a suitable anchorage that meets the strength requirements (see section 4.1) and positioned so as to minimise the fall distance.

The G.Stop must be used in conjunction with a Full Body Harness. The lifelines safety hook must be fitted to the attachment point of the full body harness.

The lifeline is spring tensioned so that it extracts and retracts from the unit, ensuring that there is no slack rope. This enables the user to move freely while helping to keep the potential fall distance to a minimum.

In the event of a fall, rope is pulled out of the unit at an accelerating rate. On reaching the activation speed of approximately 1.5m/s, the braking mechanism will engage. The energy of the fall is dissipated and the user brought to a

halt. There must be adequate clearance below the user to safely stop a fall. See sections 6 to 6.2.

Once a fall has been arrested, the user remains suspended until rescued to a safe platform or the ground.

To release the fall arrest brake, the suspended person must first be raised slightly to remove the load from the unit. The rope should then pull out from or retract into the unit, protecting the user during the rescue procedure.

3. Before Use Checks

Inspection

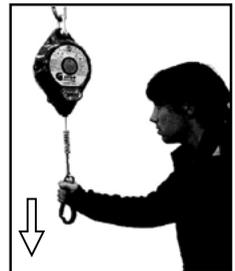
Inspect the fall arrest system for any signs of damage, wear or malfunction. The rope should be extracted from, and allowed to retract back into the fall arrest unit as it is being inspected. The rope should freely return into the unit with no obstructions such as kinks, excessive build-up of dirt or other fouling preventing retraction.



Check the safety hook, its gate locking function, and that the fall indicator has not activated (if present). If activated, the pin that connects the swivel eye and the hook (highlighted in the image by the arrow) will show red.

Test

Test the fall arrest function by pulling sharply on the safety hook. The unit's brake must lock positively and remain locked until released.



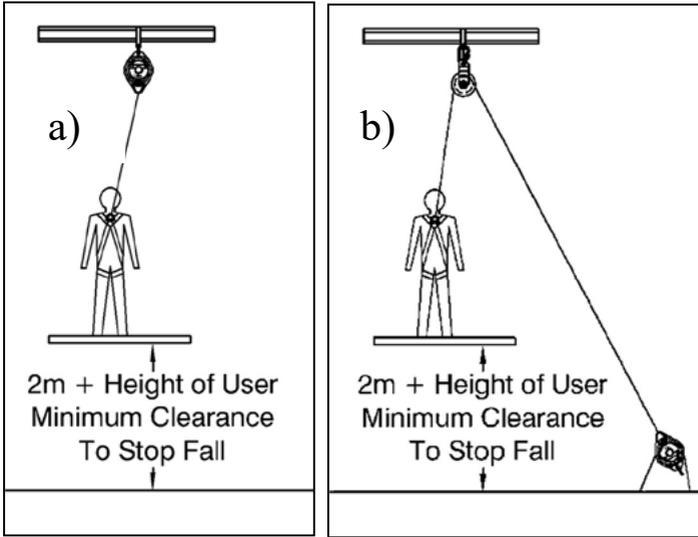
4. Installation

Connect the G.Stop to an anchor point by its shackle. The fall arrest brake mechanism will activate in any orientation. When used lying face down some premature activation may occasionally be experienced.

The following are some examples of installation configurations.

The G.Stop can be used;

- a) mounted vertically overhead.
- b) with a diverter pulley to provide safe overhead fall protection.



The anchorage for the G.Stop should be positioned so as to:

1. Minimise the fall distance.
2. Avoid any obstacles. Fall away from, rather than into, any obstacles that may harm the user.

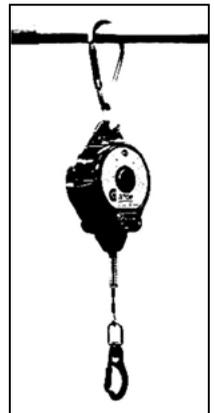
4.1 Anchorage Requirements

- Anchorages to EN 795 may be used.
- Anchor points must have a minimum static strength of 1225kg (12kN) per attached G.Stop.

4.2 Connectors



- Connectors used with the G.Stop should be to EN 362 or equivalent.
- Metal connectors must have a minimum strength of 1530kg (15kN), in the direction of loading.
- Webbing products or non-metallic connectors must have a minimum strength of 2240kg(22kN). These must not be used in contact with sharp edges or rough abrasive surfaces that may cause damage.





- Lanyards must not be used to extend the length of the wire rope. Where deemed suitable by the harness manufacturer, a short strap (0.5m maximum length) may be fitted, to extend the attachment point of the full body harness allowing easier connection of the safety hook.

4.1 Attaching to the User

The User must wear a Full Body Harness that meets the requirements of EN361. Connect the G.Stop's Safety Hook Karabiner directly to the fall arrest attachment point of the Harness. Ensure that the gate is closed and locked.

5. Instructions for Use

- Should any doubt arise about the safe condition of this device **DO NOT USE**. Return to manufacturer or a manufacturer authorised servicing agency.
- Protect your hands when inspecting or handling the rope lanyard.
- A rescue plan must be in place and ready to be implemented should a fall occur.
- Never use as a restraint or positioning device
- For protecting one user only, as a fall arrester, when attached to that user's full body harness attachment point.
- Never use the fall arrester for protection on or above unstable materials such as grain mounds, powders etc. where the user runs the risk of slowly sinking into the material, below the fall arrest brake activation speed.
- The retractable fall arrester may only be used by a trained and/or otherwise competent person or the user should be under the direct supervision of such a person.
- The Retractable Fall Arrester should only be used or subjected to temperatures within the range of 50° to -30° centigrade.
- Always position the anchorage or choose an anchorage point that minimises the fall distance.

- Ensure there is enough clearance below the work area to safely arrest a fall.
- The user's potential fall path should be free of obstructions that could cause injury, or limit the fall to below the fall arrest brake activation speed.
- Does fall protection necessitate the use of further Personal Protective Equipment such as Helmets, knee pads, gloves etc. for that environment.
- When the rope is extended do not release and allow the wire rope to run freely back into the device.
- Never cross another person's lifeline
- Never allow the rope to pass under or get wrapped around a person, their arms or legs.
- When working never allow the rope to become slack, never clamp off or stand on the wire rope.
- Do not allow the rope to pass over sharp edges, electrical items/cables, become frayed or to kink as this weakens the rope.
- Be aware of any medical condition that may affect the safety of the equipment user in normal and emergency use. If there is any doubt seek medical advice or do not use the equipment.

6. Assessing The Working Environment

For use in any requirement for working at height that demands mobility over a large working area. The use must be identified and verified by formal risk assessments.

These notes are for guidance purposes only. It is essential that a person who is trained or otherwise competent to do so, assesses applications.

An assessment to determine the safe use and emergency retrieval plan should only be carried out after reading this manual.

Each application may be different. These instructions are produced as a guide only. They can never replace the requirement for a formal assessment of each application by a suitably competent person. A plan of work and emergency rescue procedure must be in place. The work / emergency rescue procedures must be continually considered to suit any changes in the working environment.

6.1 Fall Arrester Anchored Vertically Overhead

Working with the fall arrester anchored vertically overhead is the ideal arrangement for use as the potential fall distance is kept to a minimum.

There must always be adequate clearance below the working area to allow a fall to be stopped safely.

Allow 2 metres plus the Height of the User, for clearance below the working area. See figure 1.

Be aware of any form of obstruction that may injure the user should a fall occur. Implement measures to remove any risk.

Where there is the possibility of a swing fall occurring:

Additional clearance below is required if working out from underneath the fall arrester. See figure 2.

Beware of swinging into obstructions.

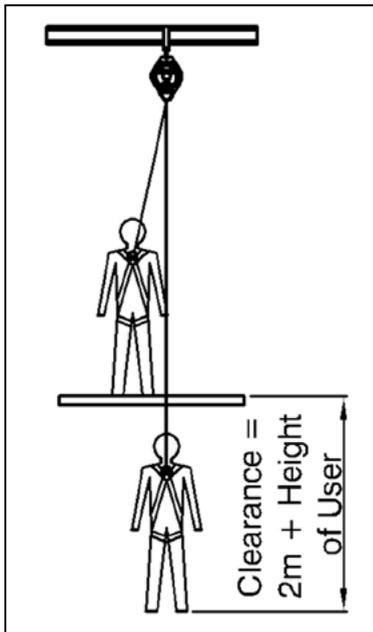


Figure 1. – Clearance Below

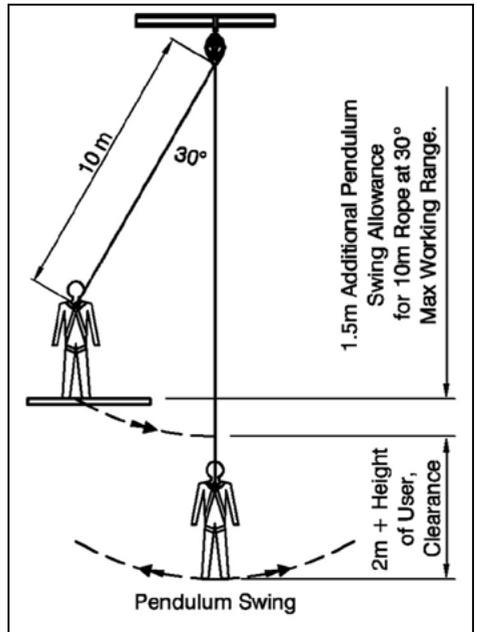


Figure 2. – Additional Swing Clearance

6.2 Fall Arrester Anchored Horizontally

The fall arrest brake mechanism will operate with the unit mounted in any orientation.

When the fall arrester is used lying on its front, anchored horizontally from the user it may occasionally activate prematurely. In this instance it is preferable to mount the unit so that it is lying on its back or side.

There must be adequate clearance below the working area to stop a fall safely.

Be aware of working sideways out from the fall arrester. Additional clearance is required where there may be a swinging fall. The anchorage must be situated so as to minimise the potential fall distance, taking special notice of swing falls.

See figure 4.

In the event of a fall, the **rope must not pass over:**

- any edges.
- masonry or steelwork.
- electrical wires or components that may harm the user.
- anything that may catch, trap or shear the wire rope.

The **User** could be in **MORTAL DANGER** if the above points are ignored.

Should the user fall, the brake mechanism will activate at an approximate speed of 1.5 m/s. If the fall does not reach this speed then the brake may not activate.

7. Retrieving the User After a Fall

Once a fall has been arrested, the user will remain suspended until rescued to a safe platform or the ground. It is important that the rescue procedure is carried out quickly after a fall.

In order to release the fall arrest brake mechanism, the suspended load/person must be lifted, allowing the rope to retract a little way into the G.Stop. The rope can then extract from the unit, allowing the user to be rescued to a safe place.

The retrieval destination and the manner of retrieval must be determined during a pre-use assessment. The user must not be left hanging for extended periods of time.

8. Inspection & Maintenance

Like all complex mechanical safety devices, the G.Stop requires regular inspection and maintenance to ensure that the unit functions correctly.

Repairs or servicing should never be carried out on site or in the field. Do not tamper with or modify the unit.

8.1 Periodic Examination.

The G.Stop should be periodically examined by a competent person, other than those using the equipment, at **least once in every 6 months** dependant upon the frequency of use and the operating environment. The 'Examination Record' found on the rear of this manual, outlines the main examination criteria. On passing this examination the record can be completed, signed off and the unit returned for use. Any observed faults must be rectified. If necessary, return the G.Stop for service and re-certification.

8.2 Service & Re-Certification.

The G.Stop must be returned for servicing annually and in the event of a fall arrest. Only a Globestock approved servicing agency can be used for this. On completion of a service and retest, a new Test Certificate will be issued which validates the unit for a further year of use.

8.3 Cleaning, Storage and Transportation

The G.Stop's exterior may be cleaned using warm water with a mild detergent. It should then be hung, by its anchorage shackle to dry in a warm environment.

In order to maintain the wire rope, extract the rope from the unit, removing any soiling. Apply a little light oil to a cloth. Hold the cloth around the rope, allowing the rope to slowly retract back into the unit. This will leave the rope lightly oiled, while ensuring the internal mechanism is not oil contaminated.

The unit should be stored in a clean, dry, chemical free environment. The unit is best stored off the floor, ideally hanging by it's anchorage shackle.

During transportation the G.Stop should be boxed or suitably retained so as to prevent damage or deterioration.

Notes

