

# FALL ARREST EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

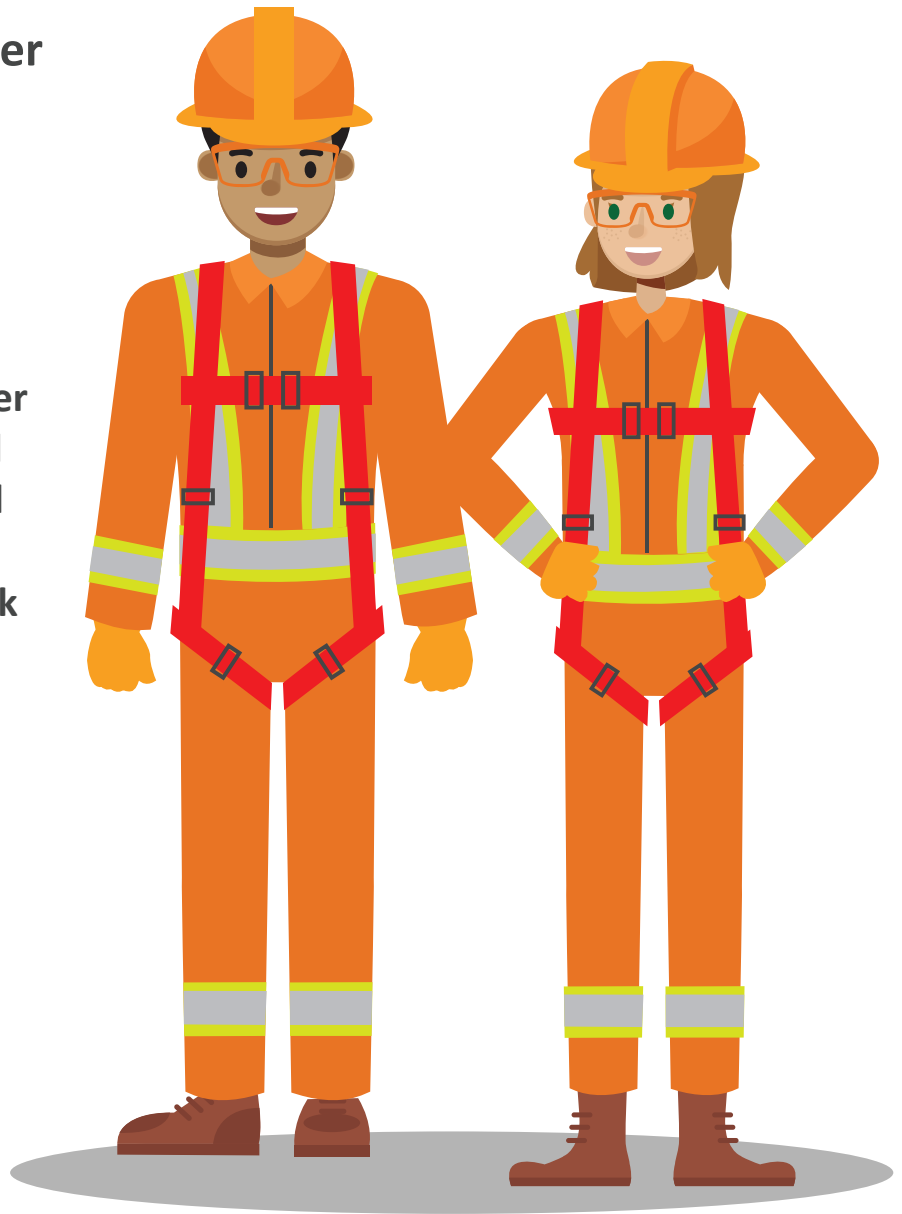
OVER ►

A fall arrest system consists of a full body harness and a lanyard with a shock absorber directly connected to an anchorage point or to an anchored lifeline.

The NL OH&S regulations, section 142 (5) states “An employer who provides a worker with a fall arrest system shall ensure the fall arrest system is inspected by a qualified person before each work shift undertaken by the worker”.

## Fall Arrest Equipment Inspection Tips

- >> Look for the manufacturer’s tag.
- >> Look for indications that the equipment has been involved in a fall.
- >> Inspect webbing, stitching and hardware.
- >> Follow manufacturer’s guidelines.



**NLCSA**  
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR  
CONSTRUCTION SAFETY ASSOCIATION



VISIT US: [WWW.NLCSA.COM](http://WWW.NLCSA.COM)

Scan to sign up & receive our monthly toolbox talk!



# FALL ARREST EQUIPMENT INSPECTION

## Look for the Manufacturer's Tag

- Every harness must have a legible tag identifying the model #, date & name of manufacturer.
- Check the tag to determine if it is past its service life policy. There is equipment that have expiry dates or are recommended to be taken out of service after so many years.
- Fall protection equipment must have the appropriate CSA standard on the tag, but may also have the Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) logo.
- If the tag is not legible or is missing, the harness must be taken out of service.

## Look for Indications that the Equipment has been Involved in a Fall

- Look the fall arrest indicator on your harness. Manufacturers instructions will clearly identify where and what the fall arrest indicator is.
- If using a shock absorber type of lanyard, look for the warning which indicates that the lanyard has been exposed to a fall.
- If the inspection indicates that the equipment has been involved in a fall, it must not be used.

## Inspect Webbing, Stitching and Hardware

- **Webbing** - Bend the webbing, checking both sides. This creates surface tension, making it easier to see damages. Inspect both sides, end to end. Look for: tears, cuts, frays, abrasion, discoloration, burns, holes, mold, alterations or other signs of wear/damage and overall deterioration.
- **Stitching** - Check the harness for missing, cut, or pulled stitching. Check for hard or shiny spots, as this could indicate heat damage.
- **Hardware** - Ensure hardware is intact and undamaged. Ensure moving parts move freely. D-rings, buckles, accessory loops, etc. must all be operational. Ensure any springs are in full working condition. Rivets and grommets must be holding tightly with no cracks or deformities. Tongue buckles should overlap the buckle frame and move freely back & forth. Any bars must be straight. Look for any cracks, sharp edges, deformation, corrosion, and/or chemical attack when inspecting hardware.

## Follow Manufacturer's Guidelines

- Manufacturer instructions on care/cleaning must followed.
- According to manufacturers', a detailed inspection must also be conducted, at least annually, by a competent person other than the user. Any equipment that fails inspection must be removed from service and/or returned to manufacturer for evaluation. Storage areas must be clean, dry, free of exposure to heat, fumes, and weather conditions.