

Installation Guidelines for FallTech's Controlled Descent Device (CDD)

WARNING

This is a design-compatible component for a comprehensive FallTech Personal Fall Arrest System. AS A USER, YOU MUST READ, FOLLOW, AND UNDERSTAND THE MANUFACTURER'S INSTRUCTIONS, LABELS, AND WARNINGS for each component part of the complete system before using it.

If you do not understand the Instructions, Labels, and Warnings for the use and maintenance of this component, have them explained to you.

ANY MISUSE OF THIS COMPONENT, ANY ALTERATION OR MODIFICATION OF IT, OR FAILURE TO PROPERLY FOLLOW THESE USER'S INSTRUCTIONS, MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH.

ATENCIÓN: TODAS LAS PERSONAS QUE USEN ESTE EQUIPO DEBERAN LEER Y COMPRENDER O TENER A ALGUIEN QUE LES EXPLIQUE LAS SIGUIENTES INSTRUCCIONES ANTES DE USARLO. EN CASO CONTRARIO SE PODRIAN PRODUCIR LESIONES GRAVES O MORTALES.

ANSI/OSHA REQUIREMENTS

SYSTEM IS DESIGNED AND TESTED TO MEET APPLICABLE OSHA AND ANSI STANDARDS. CONSULT OSHA, YOUR EMPLOYER OR COMPETENT PERSON FOR APPLICABLE STANDARDS FOR YOUR INDUSTRY AND TYPE OF WORK.

SECTION 1 – PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

The FallTech CDD is designed to be part of a comprehensive Personal Fall Arrest and Rescue System. The CDD is a rescue apparatus by means of which one or more persons (one after the other) can descend at a controlled speed from a higher to lower elevation. This device MUST only be used as a rescue device and NEVER as a fall arrestor.

SECTION 2 – IMPORTANT DO'S AND DON'TS

NOTE: THE COMPONENTS, MATERIALS, AND ANCHORAGE OF A PERSONAL FALL ARREST SYSTEM (PFAS) MUST BE SELECTED BY A COMPETENT PERSON TO MATCH THE SYSTEMS APPLICATION, AS WELL AS WORKPLACE HAZARDS AND ENVIRONMENT.

DO'S

- Do use this device only with compatible components of a comprehensive confined entry, rescue and retrieval system, such as those available from FallTech
- Do use extreme caution when rigging this device
- Do rig this device to avoid the hazards of "swing fall"
- Do inspect the entire lifeline of the CDD for cuts, abrasions, kinks, wear, or other damage
- Do protect the rope from sharp-edged objects, welding sparks or other destructive risks
- Do call FallTech if the device is damaged or does not pass inspection
- Do be aware of obstructions or other potential obstacles that would hinder safe descent

DON'TS

- Don't use this device as a load arrestor
- Don't use this device to hoist or lower materials

- Don't use this device if it has been exposed to corrosion, chemicals, excessive heat, flames, electrical charge or shows signs of any physical damage or deformation
- Don't allow the lifeline to wrap around your body. Severe injury or death could result
- Don't loop the lifeline under an arm or leg, turn toward the CDD and walk toward the CDD. If a fall should occur while the line is under an arm or leg, severe injury may occur
- Extreme caution must be taken when working near high voltage power or lines or other energized equipment.
- Don't use this device if you are pregnant, a minor, or have a reduced tolerance to fall forces by reason of age, physical medical condition, or other pre-existing disorders
- Don't use this device if you weigh less than 75 lbs
- Don't use this device if your total combined weight (body, clothes, tools, etc) exceeds 310 lbs
- Don't attempt to open or repair this device unless trained and certified by FallTech
- Don't knot, clamp, or rig lifeline in any fashion as to inhibit its function
- Don't use the CDD the primary means of access or egress

SECTION 3 – EMPLOYER & USER TRAINING RESPONSIBILITIES

OSHA requires that an **EMPLOYER** shall provide a training program for each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards. OSHA 1926.503(a) states "That the employer shall provide a training program for each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards. The program shall enable each employee to recognize the hazards of falling and shall train each in the procedures to be followed in order to minimize these hazards". All employees that might be called upon to operate this device in an emergency shall be trained by a competent person in the proper operation, inspection, and maintenance of the device per these instructions of this manual. This training should involve "hands-on" simulation of a rescue. It is recommended that training be conducted at least once per year.

As part of the training process, the USER of this CDD must:

- 1) Become familiar with ALL instructions printed in this manual
- 2) Be trained in the correct use and care of this device
- 3) Be aware of its application limits, and
- 4) Know and understand the consequences of improper use of this device

NOTE: You must be trained in the use of this CDD without being subjected to a fall hazard. For best results, Personal Fall Protection System training should be reviewed or repeated at least once per year.

SECTION 4 – THE FALL PROTECTION PLAN

As an employer, you must be aware of the factors which affect the safety of your workers before, during, and after a fall. Having a Fall Protection Plan ready before work begins is the best way to ensure the ultimate safety and well-being of your employees.

Your Fall Protection Plan must include:

- 1) **Proper Anchorage** A PROPERLY SELECTED ANCHORAGE POINT IS CRITICAL TO THE SUCCESS OF A PERSONAL FALL ARREST SYSTEM (PFAS). OSHA 1910.66 APPENDIX C REQUIRES THAT AN ANCHORAGE POINT (structural beam or member) MUST SUPPORT A STATIC LOAD OF 5,000 LBS PER PERSON ATTACHED TO THE ANCHORAGE POINT. The anchorage point must be selected to reduce fall hazards, and to avoid worker contact with objects in the fall path.
- 2) **Minimizing of Swing Falls** Anchorage point must be directly above user.
- 3) **Fall Path Clearance Check** The amount of clearance needed is based on the type and length of the connecting subsystem used, and the location of the anchorage. A minimum of 6 ft from the working level to the lower level is best.
- 4) **Avoidance of Sharp Edges and Other Hazards** You must protect workers by padding or sheathing unprotected sharp edges while work is being done. All workplace hazards must be eliminated, controlled, or considered before any work takes place.
- 5) **Rescue and Evacuation Plan** You must provide a means of rescue and evacuation for workers should a fall occur.

Refer to **OSHA 1926 Appendix E to Subpart M and 1926.500-503** for more details on Fall Protection and rescue plans. This information is available at www.osha.gov

SECTION 5 – INSPECTION

To make sure that this FallTech CDD will perform properly as part of a rescue system, it is important that you visually inspect it BEFORE EACH USE. In addition, this CDD should be fully inspected by a competent person other than you at least twice a year.

NOTE: IN ADDITION TO THIS IN FIELD INSPECTION, FALLTECH REQUIRES THIS DEVICE TO BE SENT TO AN AUTHORIZED FALLTECH SERVICE LOCATION EVERY 24 MONTHS, REGARDLESS OF USAGE. EACH DEVICE HAS ITS 24 MONTH INSPECTION DATE ON THE UNITS LABEL. CALL FALLTECH AT 1-800-719-4619 FOR RETURN INSPECTION WHEN THE INSPECTION DATE APPROACHES.

Procedure for In-Field Visual Inspection

- 1) Pull once on the rope descending from the left side of the unit and once on the rope descending from the right side of the unit. The rope must be relatively hard but uniform to pull.
- 2) Inspect carabiners for ease of operation and proper locking action. Look to see that the gate closes completely and is in the locked/closed position.
- 3) Look to see that the housing is not cracked or dented. If the housing is cracked, dented, or shows signs of any deformation, remove the CDD from service
- 4) Be sure that all labels and warnings are securely fastened and are legible. If labels are missing or are illegible, remove from service
- 5) If the CDD is used in a rescue operation, there will come a point when the braking action has reached its **MAXIMUM LIFESPAN** and will no longer control the descent speed of the individual. The following values apply:
 - a) Persons weight = 310lbs (140kg) 3280ft (1000m) descent allowed
 - b) Persons weight = 220lbs (100kg) 4920ft (1500m) descent allowed
 - c) Persons weight = 165lbs (75kg) 6560ft (2000m) descent allowed
- 6) **DO NOT ATTEMPT TO USE THE CDD AFTER REACHING THE VALUES LISTED ABOVE. SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH MAY OCCUR**
- 7) When used in a rescue operation, the CDD MUST BE returned to FallTech for testing and repair/replacement
- 8) If the CDD fails any of these inspections, remove the unit from service until corrected by FallTech
- 9) Record the results of your bi-annual inspection in the FallTech In Field Inspection Log provided in Section 9 of this manual
- 10) DO NOT ALTER OR MODIFY THE CDD IN ANYWAY AS THIS MAY RESULT IN SERIOUS INJURY OR DEATH

SECTION 6 – HOW TO USE THE FALLTECH CDD

1. Take the CDD together with the rope out of the storage bag and mount to the anchorage point using the carabiner attached the CDD unit. NOTE: THE ANCHORAGE POINT MUST BE LOCATED ABOVE THE USER AND HAVE A MINIMUM TENSILE STRENGTH OF 5000LBS (22.2kn)
2. Attach and secure one carabiner (short length of line) to the back D-ring of the full body harness. While attaching carabiner to the back D-ring, you must maintain attachment to the primary fall arrest device e.g. shock absorbing lanyard or SRL (self-retracting lifeline)
3. Throw other carabiner (trailing end of rope) to the safe lower level where you will descend to
4. Make sure the rope hangs straight down without forming loops or knots and reaches the safe lower level
5. Situate yourself so that you are directly beneath (or as close as possible) the CDD. This is important as “swing fall” may cause injury should it occur
6. Pull trailing end of rope until a tight connection between the CDD and the back D-ring of the full body harness is obtained. NEVER DESCEND INTO A SLACK ROPE
7. Step out and descend with your face towards the wall. The rate of descent is controlled automatically. Be aware of possible obstacles and plan accordingly
8. Let go of all ropes and allow the CDD to lower you to the safe lower level. DO NOT try and hold or stop ropes once descent has started
9. When you arrive at the safe lower level and if there are additional individuals requiring the use of the CDD, pull the trailing end of the rope you just used down, sending the other carabiner up to the other individual. Repeat steps 1 - 7

SECTION 7 –MAINTENANCE AND STORAGE

Clean the CDD using soap and warm water, if necessary. Avoid getting water into the unit. If water should enter the unit, allow to air dry. Do not use any other sources of heat. Clean the rope in a similar fashion, allowing to air dry as well. Store unit in a cool, dry place. Avoid contact with acids and other caustic materials.
DO NOT ATTEMPT TO REPLACE OR REPAIR ANY PARTS OF THE CDD UNLESS TRAINED AND CERTIFIED BY FALLTECH!

SECTION 8 – PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

FallTech Controlled Descent Device (CDD)

Housing: Cast aluminum

Internal Parts and Drum: Aluminum, steel, stainless steel, and bronze

Rope: 3/8" (9mm) kern mantle, 6,500lb minimum tensile strength

Attachment/anchorage carabiners: Steel alloy, 1-1/8" gate opening 5,000 lb tensile strength, yellow zinc plated

Capacity: 310 lbs – one person (including clothing, tools, etc)

Complies with applicable OSHA and ANSI standards

Made in Germany

WARRANTY

Alexander Andrew, Inc. dba FallTech, warrants to the purchaser that all products are free of defect in material and workmanship at the time of shipment. Obligation under this warranty is limited to product replacement for the period of one (1) year from the date of installation or use by the owner, provided that this period shall not exceed two (2) years from the date of shipment. This warranty is not transferable. No other person or firm is authorized to assume or assign for FallTech any other liability in connection with the sale or use of our products. Furthermore, this warranty is void if any product is changed or altered in any way or if the product is used in a manner other than for which it is intended. This warranty only covers defects in material and workmanship; it does not cover conditions resulting from normal wear and tear, neglect, abuse or accident. All returns to FallTech must have a return authorization (RA#) which is obtained from our Customer Service department. All returns must be shipped prepaid.

FallTech's instructions, labels, and warnings supplied with each product at time of shipment **must be read and followed prior to use**. Failure to do so may result in serious injury or death. These products are not to be used by untrained individuals.

SECTION 9 – INSPECTION LOG

MODEL NO: _____

PURCHASE DATE: _____

INSPECTED BY: _____

DATE: _____

PROBLEMS, DEFECTS NOTED (IF ANY): _____

MODEL NO: _____

PURCHASE DATE: _____

INSPECTED BY: _____

DATE: _____

PROBLEMS, DEFECTS NOTED (IF ANY): _____

MODEL NO: _____

PURCHASE DATE: _____

INSPECTED BY: _____

DATE: _____

PROBLEMS, DEFECTS NOTED (IF ANY): _____

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PROBLEMS, DEFECTS NOTED (IF ANY): _____
