



Redpoint® & Auto-Belay Descenders Stop-Use Notice Update

December 4, 2009

As you are already aware, MSA issued a Stop-Use Notice on Redpoint and Auto-Belay Descenders on October 14, 2009 and a subsequent Stop-Use Notice Update on November 3, 2009. The Stop-Use Notices were emailed and mailed to all Redpoint and affected Auto-Belay purchasers that MSA has on record. After conducting a thorough investigation, MSA is planning to discontinue the Redpoint Descender.

MSA did not make this decision lightly, and we regret any inconvenience this action may cause. As you are aware, there are alternative belay systems available from other manufacturers. While we regret having to take this action, the overriding need to ensure the safety of all those using our product on recreational climbing walls is our highest priority. With this action, MSA is effectively exiting the recreational market for climbing wall auto-belay systems. MSA will, however, continue to focus on and serve the industrial fall protection market, as we have done since 1930. In short, MSA is committed to the industrial fall protection market and will continue to serve our customers there with the most dependable industrial fall protection systems available today.

We are developing a reimbursement program for eligible Redpoint and Auto-Belay Descenders. Our program plans are currently being reviewed by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC). Following the CPSC review, we plan to issue a recall notice to owners and distributors of the affected products, including instructions for the return of units.

It is important that the Stop-Use remain in effect. Please do not use any Redpoint Descender or affected Auto-Belay Descender.

As a reminder, the Stop-Use Notice applies to the following descender units:

- All Redpoint Descenders (part numbers 10024873, 10027646, and 10027798) regardless of the date the unit was manufactured or last serviced,
- Auto-Belay Descenders (part number 10021806) manufactured or last serviced on or after June 30, 2000.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles J. Seibel, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Charles J. Seibel, Jr.
Manager of Product Safety