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December 15, 2010

REMINDER NOTICE

TENSION LIMITER PRODUCT NOTIFICATION

Capital Safety previously issued two notices regarding potential cable corrosion and pay-out settings on the Tension Limiter system (model #5900177). This is a follow-up reminder only and does not contain new information. If you did not respond to the previous notices, or if you have not completed your efforts to respond, please do so now.

The Tension Limiter System

The Tension Limiter is a safety device that connects in-line between a worker and a powered lifting winch or man-riding system. It is designed to reduce the forces that a worker will experience if the worker becomes entangled in a fixed structure while being raised. In that event, the Tension Limiter will pay out a high visibility lifeline warning the winch operator to stop raising operations, limiting the forces on the entangled worker. A personal fall arrest system must always be used in conjunction with a Tension Limiter.

The Previous Notices

In August 2008, Capital Safety notified customers of a small number of Tension Limiter units displaying signs of cable corrosion, and provided specific inspection steps to assist in the inspection of the units for corrosion. If signs of corrosion are detected as described in Section 5.0 of the Supplemental Instruction (see website under Tension Limiter), Capital Safety recommends the unit be removed from service and sent back to us for further inspection and possible repair or replacement of the affected parts at no cost.

In September 2009, Capital Safety notified customers of a limited number of reports of Tension Limiters paying out during lifting operations, and determined that certain operating conditions, storage environments, and user applications can adversely affect loading and performance of the pay-out capability of these units, resulting in premature pay-out (see website under technical bulletins). If any user is experiencing premature pay-out, or wants to have their units adjusted to increase the lower limit of the pay-out setting, they may contact customer service at 800-328-6146 to arrange a return authorization at no cost.

If the unit was serviced on or after October, 2009 (see service date stamp yy/mm to check, e.g., 0910) then the unit has already been serviced under both previous notices and does not need to be sent in again for servicing at this time. Customers are reminded that due to the extreme operating conditions these units are exposed to, we have changed the annual inspection to an annual service requirement at a Capital Safety authorized service center.

Tom Wolner, VP – Engineering
