MSA Latchways **PRD**

Frequently asked questions (FAQ)



MSA Latchways Personal Rescue Device	
Why is the device only available in a 20m length?	Because the device would be very big and heavy. There will never be a single piece of PPE that covers every application. Focus on the tasks that are within 20m. E.g. 90% of the overhead cranes are less than 20m
We work in restraint…	The PRD provides a simple, self-rescue plan in the event of fall – this is required under EN guidance. Furthermore, a "restraint" scenario can never be guaranteed – the PRD provides peace of mind and a plan for foreseeable misuse (for example, an operative may connect with a longer fixed length).
We work in MEWPs (mobile elevating working platforms) – I don't have a need for a rescue plan.	There are multiple situations where the risk of a fall can occur. Workers often reach outside of the protected area to undertake works; the MEWP could be struck by another vehicle; or the ground controls and auxiliary lowering system can fail. Evacuation may be also required.
We use rescue kit and have rescue trained personnel.	Traditional rescue plans are often complicated, dangerous or costly – bringing a standby rescue team or in-house rescue team up to the victim and to a potentially dangerous situation. Furthermore, the PRD has no training costs - dramatically reducing rescue time and providing a simplistic rescue solution that does not require a team to act. It vastly avoids the risk of someone else falling, and is always available.
What if the user is unconscious? How will the device be activated?	The Latchways PRD is designed, primarily, as a self-rescue system. In the event that the User is unable to initiate self-rescue, a secondary activation method is available This is a red and black rubberised loop which can be pulled by a rescuer - either by hand, or with the aid of the Latchways PRD Rescue Pole, to activate the descent.
What about periodic examination?	Periodic examination is limited to a visual inspection carried out by a competent person at least every 12 months from the date of first use.
How long is the PRD's service life?	Subject to passing pre-use checks and periodic examinations the Latchways PRD's service life, based on its textile element, is up to 10 years.
Can the PRD be used with all harnesses available on the market?	The Latchways PRD shall only be used with MSA approved harnesses – it is currently available connected to the Workman Premier and the Workman Utility harness.



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What is weight capacity of the PRD?	Total user weight (including tools) 59 kg min. – 140 kg max.
What is a descent speed of the PRD?	Descent speed is between 0.5 – 2 m/sec (dependent on user mass).
What happens to the PRD after a descent?	After a single descent, the descender device shall be withdrawn from service, details recorded on the periodic examination log and returned to Latchways or an authorised agent. Repairs shall be completed by a Latchways trained Technician only.
What standards is the PRD certified to?	The MSA Latchways PRD is a combined fall arrest harness and descent device. There is no Australian Standard that covers a harness with an integral descender. The PRD comprises two main components: * Full body harnes * Descent devic The Workman harness in the existing Latchways PRD model
	is certified to EN361:2002 (European Standard) and conforms to AS/NZS1891.1:2007. The harness is compliant and passes all relevant design, construction, and performance specifications.but it does not have the labelling information as required in AS/NZS1891.1:2007. (This relates to the compliance label - it does not carry the AS/NZS mark and it doesn't have a "remove from service" date.) When following the requirements of AS/NZS1891.4:2009 - "formal" 6 monthly inspections are required, and the "date of manufacture" and " remove from service" dates are entered on the equipment register. This will be used to ensure the harness does not exceed the 10 year life.
	The descender device conforms to EN341:2011 Type 1 Class D (European Standard - there is no relevant Australian Standard for the descent device.)
	For consideration: AS/NZS standards are voluntary The WHS Act and Regulations, which are mandatory, do not refer to Australian standards Hence if a customer wishes to purchase a product from a recognised ISO Member international standard in which they have conducted their own risk assessment for the acceptability of this product for their application, it is acceptable to use.