



info@prcainfo.org
www.myprca.org

SAFETY ALERT – Lanyard Failure –with “QUICKjump” use 8-2015

PRCA Safety Alert / Technical Advisory Committee:

The purpose of the PRCA safety alerts and technical advisories is to disseminate current and recently acquired information to the industry which will aid in the prevention of accidents on ropes courses, canopy tours, aerial adventure parks and zip line tours. Where possible the PRCA will provide unbiased information related to the sequence of events, materials involved and root causes of accidents or near misses. When possible the PRCA Safety Alert / Technical Advisory Committee will make appropriate contacts as necessary but the committee does not intend to perform in depth investigations into incidents, we rely upon the information provided by our members, members of the industry and other industry associations, such as the European Ropes Course Association.

Please forward any questions or comments about this safety alert / technical advisory to info@prcainfo.org with the subject line “Lanyard Failure 8-2015”.

Background:

On August 1, 2015 at the Acrobastille adventure park in Grenoble France a young team leader suffered multiple fractures when his lanyard broke when using a Headrush Technologies “QUICKjump” device for a drop jump of less than ten meters.

The reason for the rupture of the lanyard has not yet been determined and is being investigated at this time. The intent of this advisory is to provide users with the following information regarding this incident. This information consists of a web report of the incident and an open letter from the manufacturer regarding inspection, installation and operation of the QUICKjump devices. If additional information is made available this report will be supplemented.

Web based report:

Acrobastille accident of Grenoble: the thesis of a rupture privileged strap (Google translation of online report).

Transferred to the University Hospital of the leader of the Tronche 27 team, organizer of adventure of the Bastille had a fall of 10 meters on Friday 31 August. He suffered multiple fractures, polytrauma legs and head but his prognosis is not engaged. The investigation is ongoing.

France 3 Alpes

Published 08/01/2015 | 5:43 p.m., updated 08.02.2015 | 3:04

In a statement Saturday, August 1 Frédéric Dubois, manager [the Acrobastille](#) first gives news of his young team leader "he suffered multiple fractures but his prognosis is not engaged." "It's following a "Jump" break strap on the workshop that the accident occurred at about 16 hours. -The Jump is an autonomous workshop which simulates a

PROFESSIONAL ROPES COURSE ASSOCIATION

6260 E. Riverside Blvd. #104, Rockford, Illinois 61111 • 815.986.7776 • Fax: 815.637.2964 • info@prcainfo.org

fall, while accompanying the descent with a reel. The height is less than 10 meters-. This American brand unit "Quickjump" says the manager, "is installed in more than 10,000 copies worldwide and no accidents have been indexed to date."

The course was updated its security checks "

The rupture of the strap clean this equipment is not explained to date, and is the subject of an investigation. And Frédéric Dubois says that "the material was current on its security. The belt in question was changed earlier this year and revised equipment before the season. In early July the annual control the entire park was performed by an approved inspection office. " The site closed practitioners will remain from the weekend accident. Air routes, the spéléobox and Bastille Mission may re-open without this device that was installed in 2014. But the head of the precise structure that "teams will take the time to all the checks that may be required, even though to date no authorities directive was given imposing a closure. "

Open letter from Headrush Technologies

Quick Jump Update from Headrush Technologies

"Greetings,

As you may have heard, there was an incident involving a QUICKjump device at an aerial adventure park in Grenoble, France over the August 1 weekend. Our thoughts go out to the injured party and his family, and we are thankful to hear that the injuries are not life threatening.

The investigation into this incident is just beginning and many facts are not known, but we will work with everyone involved in the investigation to the fullest extent to find out what occurred. We do not want to comment further until the investigation is complete. However, we felt this was a vital opportunity to emphasize the importance of regularly scheduled inspection and maintenance.

The QUICKjump device is used throughout the world and has a flawless safety record when installed and used properly. Due to significant engineering redundancies and internal/external quality assurance programs, we don't foresee any need to remove any devices from service.

Head Rush Technologies is confident in the design of the QUICKjump, which complies with the prevailing ASTM F2291-11: Standard Practice for Design of Amusement Rides and Devices and ASTM 846-92: Standard Guide for Testing Performance of Amusement Rides and Device safety regulations. The spectra webbings used in the QUICKjump don't break under a singular load impact within approved parameters. These webbings are rated at 15.6 kN for the standard QUICKjump and 16kN for the QUICKjump XL, which equate to a breaking strengths of 3,500 lbs (1,588 kg) and 3,600 lbs (1,632 kg), respectively. Conversely, the heaviest allowable participant (130 kg) on a QUICKjump falling the maximum distance generates less than a 2kN (450 pounds or 204 kg) impact force. Due to this built-in strength, a majority of the longitudinal fibers would have to be missing or been severely damaged to allow failure at the largest allowable impact load. Additionally, the QUICKjump webbing utilizes multiple redundant stitching points throughout the Overload Protection Assembly (OPA) yielding a greater strength than the webbing itself.

The QUICKjump requires daily, weekly, and six month inspections, as well as routine maintenance and normal replacement of service items and wearing parts such as the nozzle, webbing line and carabiner. The QUICKjump also requires a yearly recertification. At no time should the yearly recertification be substituted for the daily or weekly inspections. The purpose of these inspections is to evaluate any wear, damage or, worst-case scenario, tampering with the device. Webbing inspections/integrity is a key responsibility of the operator and is a field replaceable item.

It is important to always mount the QUICKjump within 15° of vertical with the nozzle pointing downwards and the webbing line exiting the bottom of the device, and that all paths and connection points are free of sharp edges and high friction surfaces that may damage the webbing line. Participants, when ready to descend, should step straight

down off the platform and always descend feet first, using their feet to fend off any obstacles and prepare for landing. Acrobatics (flips, dives, etc.) are not authorized when using the QUICKjump device.

The Overload Protection Assembly (OPA) is a critical component of the QUICKjump webbing line. It should never be modified or prevented from proper deployment as it is an important safety feature. The OPA must be inspected daily to assure the assembly is contained and has not been deployed. Additionally, a weekly inspection of the interior condition of the Overload Protection Assembly (OPA) is required. The OPA jacket must be opened and the entire assembly checked to make sure that no threads are broken and that the webbing is in good condition. If any broken threads are found, the webbing line must be replaced immediately. Required inspection of the OPA dictates that no objects such as tape or webbings should be wrapped around this critical component.

We hope this message helps you better understand the requirements of maintaining the QUICKjump device in proper working order and clarifies the extensive testing and engineering that go into all of Head Rush Technologies' devices. We strongly encourage you to share this important information with your QUICKjump customers and emphasize with each the importance of regular and thorough inspections. As more information becomes available on the situation in France we will share updates.

Sincerely,
Bill Carlson (Director of Channel Sales)
Head Rush Technologies
www.headrushtech.com