

All Austlift SRL (Self retracting Lifelines) Servicing / Inspection Intervals

1. Background

Servicing and inspection of mechanical fall protection devices, such as Self Retracting Devices (SRDs) often referred to as Self Retracting Lifelines (SRLs) , Retractable Lanyards or fall arrest devices are important requirements of any effective fall protection safety program.

The frequency of servicing and inspection as well as who should perform these activities are critical items.

All fall protection equipment, including SRLs, must be inspected before each use. If inspection reveals a defective condition, or is involved in a fall arrest event then the SRL must be removed from use and repaired/ serviced by Austlift or a service agent.

2.Servicing Frequency

Servicing frequency is dependent on the applicable country or local codes/ regulations that are in affect for that specific region where the SRL is in use, Ref to AS/NZS1891.4 for Australia and New Zealand

ALL HEIGHT SAFETY GEAR MUST BE INSPECTED BY A COMPETENT PERSON ON A REGULAR BASIS AS REQUIRED BY THE AS/NZS 1891.4 STANDARD:		
ITEM	INSPECTION FREQUENCY (NOTE 1)	REFERENCE
Fall-arrest devices (external inspection only)	6-monthly inspection by a Height Safety Equipment Inspector (Note 3).	Clause 9.3.4(a)
Fall-arrest devices—full service	Frequency of service by a Height Safety Equipment Inspector as recommended by the manufacturer to a maximum of 5 yearly. 12 monthly service in the absence of such recommendations. (See Note 3)	Clause 9.3.4(b)
All items of personal and common use equipment	Inspection by a Height Safety Equipment Inspector on entry or re-entry into service.	Clause 9.4
All items which have been stressed as a result of a fall	Inspection by a Height Safety Equipment Inspector before further use (Note 3).	Clause 9.5
NOTES: 1. Where used in harsh conditions, more frequent inspection may be required. 2. If the user or operator of the equipment is not competent to carry out this inspection it is to be undertaken by another person who is competent, see Clause 9.2. 3. All inspections other than those by the operator are to be documented (see Clause 9.10)		

AS/NZS 1891.4 standard, defines a Height Safety Equipment Inspector in Clause 1.4.8 as the following:

“A person who is competent in the skills needed to detect faults in height safety equipment and to determine remedial action.”

The work environment, the type of work being performed, and the frequency of use are some of the factors that will determine how often the SRL should be serviced. The following frequency information should be viewed as **minimum requirements** and may need to increase if needed.

3. Australia / New Zealand SRL steel cable as well as SRL webbing units.

Australian / New Zealand requirements AS/NZS 1891.4. states the Frequency of Inspection and service should be recommended by the manufacturer, in the absence of the recommendation steel cable units must be inspected annually and webbing units 6 monthly minimum (Refer to Table 4.2).

3.1 Austlift Inspection Frequency:

- SRLs shall be inspected by the authorised person before each use.
 - Additionally, inspections shall be conducted by a height safety equipment inspector other than the user, and by a factory authorised inspection entity. The height safety equipment inspector (HSE Inspector) shall use (Table 4.2) to determine appropriate inspection intervals.
 - Results of the height safety equipment inspector should be recorded in a “*Inspection and Maintenance Log*”
- (1) **Authorised Person:** A person assigned by the employer to perform duties at a location where the person will be exposed to a fall hazard, and will be required to use equipment to work at height.
- (2) **Height Safety Equipment Inspector (HSE Inspector):** An individual designated by the employer who, through training and knowledge, is capable of detecting, identifying, evaluating, and addressing existing and potential faults in height safety equipment and to determine remedial action, and will document all inspections for future reference and has the authority to remove any failed product from service or send for repair to authorised manufacturer repair centre.

4.1 Austlift recommends the following:

Inspection: Inspection by a height safety operator (Authorised Person) before and after each use.

- **Webbing SRL Six (6) month** inspection by a height safety equipment inspector.
- **Steel cable SRL Yearly** Inspection by height safety equipment inspector
- **In Harsh Environments:** Increase the frequency of the inspections, to be determined by onsite risk assessments or 3 monthly for webbing and 6 monthly for steel cable units.

Table 4.2 – Inspection Schedule

Austlift Model	SRL Material	Type of Use	Conditions of use	Inspection Frequency		
				User	HSE Inspector	Austlift Service Agent
915302 915342 915344 915303	Webbing	Infrequent to Light	Indoor or Infrequent Outdoor Use, Room Temperature, Clean Environments, Good Storage Conditions	Before Each use	6 Monthly	No full service required for 5 years from date of in service, then discard
915302 915342 915344 915303	Webbing	Moderate to Heavy	Indoor and Extended Outdoor Use, All Temperatures, Clean or Dusty Environments Fair Storage Conditions,	Before Each use	6 Monthly	No full service required for 5 years from date of in service, then discard
915302 915342 915344 915303	Webbing	Severe to Continuous	Harsh Environment, Prolonged or Continuous Outdoor Use, All Temperatures, Dirty Environment. Harsh Storage Conditions	Before Each use	3 to 6 Monthly	No full service required for 5 years from date of in service, then discard

Table 4.2 – Inspection Schedule (Continued)

Austlift Model	SRL Material	Type of Use	Conditions of use	Inspection Frequency		
				User	HSE Inspector	Austlift Service Agent
915207 915210	Galvanised Steel Cable (Sharp Edge) Includes Webbing Shock Pack	Infrequent to Light	Indoor or Infrequent Outdoor Use, Room Temperature, Clean Environments, Good Storage Conditions	Before Each use	6 Monthly	2 years from date of first use
915207 915210	Galvanised Steel Cable (Sharp Edge) Includes Webbing Shock Pack	Moderate to Heavy	Indoor and Extended Outdoor Use, All Temperatures, Clean or Dusty Environments Fair Storage Conditions,	Before Each use	6 Monthly	2 years from date of first use
915207 915210	Galvanised Steel Cable (Sharp Edge) Includes Webbing Shock Pack	Severe to Continuous	Harsh Environment, Prolonged or Continuous Outdoor Use, All Temperatures, Dirty Environment. Harsh Storage Conditions	Before Each use	3 to 6 Monthly	2 years from date of first use (Unit may need to be serviced annually due to harsher environmental conditions)
Austlift Model	SRL Material	Type of Use	Conditions of use	Inspection Frequency		
				User	HSE Inspector	Austlift Service Agent
915220 915230 915320 915321	Galvanised Steel Cable	Infrequent to Light	Indoor or Infrequent Outdoor Use, Room Temperature, Clean Environments, Good Storage Conditions	Before Each use	Annually	2 years from date of first use
915220 915230 915320 915321	Galvanised Steel Cable	Moderate to Heavy	Indoor and Extended Outdoor Use, All Temperatures, Clean or Dusty Environments Fair Storage Conditions,	Before Each use	6 Monthly to Annually	2 years from date of first use
915220 915230 915320 915321	Galvanised Steel Cable	Severe to Continuous	Harsh Environment, Prolonged or Continuous Outdoor Use, All Temperatures, Dirty Environment. Harsh Storage Conditions	Before Each use	3 to 6 Monthly	2 years from date of first use (Unit may need to be serviced annually due to harsher environmental conditions)

Service by Austlift or service agent:

- Inspection and necessary service required by manufacturer every 2 years.
- Inspection and necessary service required by manufacturer after a fall arrest event.
- Inspection and necessary service required by manufacturer after failing an inspection.
- **All units must be removed from service 10 years from date of manufacture**

