

Rope access anchor sling supplied with ferrule not crimped



Cause of incident:

Defective equipment

Description of Process:

Rope access **steel wire sling** for use as secure anchor point

Description of Incident:

Whilst setting up for a task the rope access team required four off wire anchor slings. When attaching the slings, they appeared to be fit for purpose and correct. The **defect was not observed during several visual checks**.

With no load having been applied, the defect was discovered on one of the slings prior to first use. It was immediately withdrawn from service and all other similar slings given thorough inspection.

The sling was fully certified by the manufacturer.

The manufacturer was alerted of the finding.

Good Practice Guidance:

Maintaining vigilance and avoiding complacency during work equipment inspections can prevent incidents. New and fully certified equipment could lead to assumption that it is safe for use. In this case, manufacturing and subsequent initial workplace checks did not identify the issue – the work party conducted a thorough inspection of their equipment immediately prior to use and prevented a potentially hazardous situation.

Ask your suppliers if they've had any issues such as this. If so, they should share what they have learned and what did they do to inform those whom they had supplied elsewhere.