

## Newsflash - 2017 11

22th June 2017

Every employee and contractor, working for Northern Powergrid, should go home at the end of each shift uninjured and in good health after a productive days work

## Inspecting Work at Height Equipment

During formal inspections defects were found relating to wearing of the stitch patterns on the front attachment of two Cresto harnesses. We returned the harnesses to the manufacture to gain their views on the defects. **The defects were considered safety critical and the harnesses were failed as a result.**

In addition, another DNO had a serious near miss where the webbing on a choker tore significantly. Adjustable buckles were found to be causing rubbing/cutting damage to the webbing. Since then we have found a number of pole chokers with 1-2mm cuts around adjustable buckles in Northern Powergrid.

When carrying out a 'pre use inspection' look for any defect which could lead to a failure of the equipment.

- Look for defects such as cuts, tears, worn stitching etc. which may affect the integrity of any webbing or ropes.
- Check that all metal work operates smoothly and that any self-locking gates return to a secure closed position easily.

The 'pre-use inspection' is for your own safety and needs to be thorough. Further guidance on the inspections of webbings and ropes can be found by assessing the link below.

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg367.pdf>



**Under no circumstances should equipment which is damaged or defective be used and must be replaced. Do not put your life at risk.**

**If in doubt, further advice should be sought from your manager**