

### *Reassembled “Lifewheel” safety harness anchorage failure*

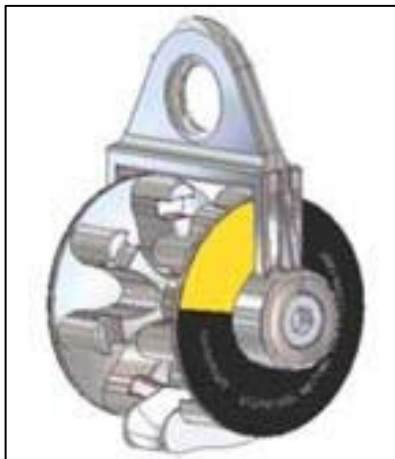
<b>Category:</b>	Personal protective equipment
<b>Sub-category:</b>	Safety harness systems
<b>Relevant to:</b>	All construction and utilities sectors, employers and workers using “Lifewheel” anchorages.
<b>Date of Issue:</b>	10 December 2004
<b>Reference No:</b>	04: 009
<b>Authorised by:</b>	Geoff Thomas, Construction & Utilities Program Director

### Incident

A “Lifewheel” travelling anchorage unit came apart whilst in service at a construction site.

At the time, the anchorage unit was under minimal load. The worker using the unit readily identified that there was a fault and was able to return to a safe location.

Subsequently, a second unit at the site was also found to readily come apart.



*The “Lifewheel” travelling anchorage.  
Schematic diagram (left) and typical application with installed lifeline (right).*

### Preliminary Investigation

WorkSafe’s preliminary enquiries indicate:

- “Lifewheel” travelling anchorages are manufactured in the United Kingdom by Roodsafe.
- The two units known to have failed were supplied by Workplace Access & Safety Pty Ltd (WAS) prior to 12 July 2004. The original WAS company has since gone into liquidation. Its assets were sold to Brikmann Pty Ltd on 14 September 2004, and Brikmann subsequently changed its name to that of the original liquidated company, Workplace Access & Safety Pty Ltd.

- Under use it appears the central securing bolt of the reassembled unit vibrated loose, causing the body of the unit to disassemble.
- At this time there is no evidence to suggest that there is any inherent fault in either the design or the manufacture of Roodsafe “Lifewheel” travelling anchorages.

## Remedial Action

All “Lifewheel” units supplied by the original Workplace Access & Safety Pty Ltd prior to 12 July 2004 should be immediately withdrawn from use.

Roodsafe has advised the new WAS company that it will replace any modified units free of charge.

Anyone who purchased “Lifewheel” units from the original WAS company should contact Carl Sachs at the new WAS company to arrange for inspection and possible replacement of any units. Telephone (03) 8415 1414 or mobile 0408 429 537.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Although the new WAS company is not responsible for the management actions of the original WAS company now in liquidation, the new WAS company has made every attempt to contact and assist clients of the former company, and to fully cooperate with WorkSafe’s investigations.*

## Further Information

- Information and about the “Lifewheel” may be found on Roodsafe’s website at [www.roodsafe.com](http://www.roodsafe.com).
- Workplace Access & Safety Pty Ltd is located at 119 Vere Street Abbotsford and may be contacted on (03) 8415 1414.

## Disclaimer:

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