



What are the changes for 2009?

- 1) Double action snap hooks on lanyards or any other fall-protection application will no longer be permitted. There are various reasons for this. The use of snap hooks has been debated over the years with regulations differing between the various European countries. There have been a number of issues, near-misses and accidents directly linked to the use of this type of connector on a lanyard.

Under rule 2.2.12 the 2009 ITCC rule book states:

“A carabiner used as part of a climbers’ primary fall-protection/ work-positioning system shall be manufactured to meet or exceed the minimum accepted industry safety standard. It shall be self-closing and double auto-locking and shall require a minimum of two separate operations to prepare the gate to open. ...”.

In certain situations the lanyard can become a climber’s primary tie in point, for example during Aerial Rescue, Work Climb or Masters’ Climb.

Therefore the committee has decided not to allow this type of connector to be used for ETCC as from this year. **Not allowed as from 2009: Rope snaps on work-positioning lanyards.**



- 2) The Shunt by Petzl (see below) used as a back-up device when ascending on doubled ascenders. This technique will not be allowed on a climbing line installed doubled over a limb as the grab function of the device will be compromised should one cam of the ascender fail. Also the Shunt is not certified and/ or approved as a back-up device.



Petzl Shunt

- 3) Friction Hitch cord diameters
EN1891 standards for Type A certification require a min. of 10mm diameter, 8mm for Type B. If you are using a friction hitch cord of a diameter of less than 8mm, you will have to produce documentation on the construction and materials.
- 4) Function check of hitches
Friction hitches on the work-positioning systems will be checked for function and configuration during gear check and before the events.
- 5) Final note
If you are considering bringing new equipment to the competition be sure to bring along documentation on technical specifications. If you are unable to provide any details (manufacturer, breaking strain, materials etc.) the equipment may not pass gear check. For example new ideas or novel configurations should be accompanied with test data.
- 6) Questions/concerns?
If you have any doubts as to the correct procedure or questions about the changes for 2009, please visit the ETCC website, www.eurotcc.org, or contact etcc@isa-arbor.com.

Kind regards,

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