

September 27, 2016 (English)

SEQUOIA and SEQUOIA SRT safety bulletin

Subject: correction of the partial opening problem for FAST automatic buckles on SEQUOIA and SEQUOIA SRT tree care harnesses

This bulletin follows the one sent on July 8, 2016.



SEQUOIA



SEQUOIA SRT

1. Synopsis

In the spring of 2016, several arborists alerted us to cases of automatic FAST buckles on SEQUOIA and SEQUOIA SRT harnesses opening while the arborists were moving through trees. Most of the automatic buckles that opened were located on the harness leg loops.

An analysis of the FAST automatic buckles affected by the defect revealed non-compliance in the size of the buckle hook. The non-compliance can cause partial opening of the buckle, even when no pressure is applied to the unlocking button.



2. Recap of user risks

Petzl carried out two strength tests on SEQUOIA harnesses:

- the first with three automatic FAST buckles (leg loop and waistbelt) partially open
- the second with an automatic FAST leg loop buckle completely open

In both cases, harness strength continues to meet EN 813 and EN 358 standards. There is no risk to users.

3. Corrective action taken by Petzl

Production changes:

In early July 2016, we made our SEQUOIA and SEQUOIA SRT harness buckles size-compliant once more. The compliance procedure was carried out on the following reference and serial numbers:

- C69AFA 1, starting with serial number 16G0033694xxx
- C69AFA 2, starting with serial number 16G0032035xxx
- C69BFA 1, starting with serial number 16G0030714xxx
- C69BFA 2, starting with serial number 16G0031645xxx

4. If you encounter the problem

If you've noticed any accidental FAST buckle openings and your harness was made before July 2016, please contact your country's distributor. The distributor will ensure you get new, compliant leg loops that have a very simple replacement procedure. In **Australia** and **New Zealand**, please email support@spelean.com.au include your Model and Serial Number,

Petzl's number one priority remains your safety and satisfaction. We are fully aware of the inconveniences caused by the issue and thank you in advance for your understanding.

Petzl guarantees a ten-year customer support period for issues related to this buckle problem.