

# Important Safety Information

Climbing is an inherently dangerous and potentially hazardous activity. PLEASE CLIMB SAFE!

The following information and warnings are provided to help insure climbers stay safe. PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING carefully and feel free to contact any vendor to address your questions.

## IMPORTANT. PLEASE READ. CLIMB SMART.

- Climbing is dangerous.
- Review the rules of the facility.
- Use equipment according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Seek qualified instruction if you are unfamiliar with any aspect of climbing.
- Double check your safety system before leaving the ground.
- Climbing or bouldering on any climbing wall can result in falls.
- Falling from any height can result in serious injury or death.
- Remember, your safety is your responsibility. Stack the odds in your favor, climb with caution.

## STAFF & OPERATIONS

- Be sure all staff members are appropriately trained and supervised for their duties. Retraining and ongoing training is important as conditions change or memory fails. NEVER USE untrained or under trained staff to run a climbing wall.
- Employee turnover is inevitable. Be sure to train and qualify and document all new employee training.
- Provide appropriate warnings at your facility.
- Check all gear.
- Perform all maintenance and routine checks on the wall and all appropriate equipment (anchors, Auto Belays, lead bolts, quickdraws, belay bars, floor, anchors, etc.) Retire gear early or when it is showing wear. It's better to be safe than sorry.

## AUTO BELAY WARNINGS

- With the increasing popularity of rock climbing, indoor climbing gyms, and Auto Belays, the possibility of rock climbing accidents also increases. The Nicros Auto Belay Safety Sytem™ provides a warning when a climber forgets to attach to the Auto Belay. For more information on the Auto Belay Safety Sytem™, we can be reached at 800.699.1975.
- When using the Auto Belay System, it is your responsibility to perform the double check on yourself, if you do not feel confident in your ability to perform this task, you must have someone else perform your double check for you. For additional information on equipment and setup, please visit [www.nicros.com](http://www.nicros.com) for an Auto Belay Setup.

## GRIGRI WARNINGS

- Petzl America: provides NEW "belaying the leader" technique with the Petzl GriGri. For more information, and to view a video demonstration of the new belay technique, please visit [www.petzl.com](http://www.petzl.com).
- Proper operation of the Petzl GriGri: The brake hand is the primary belay mechanism while using the GriGri. The GriGri has an autolocking feature that is intended to be used as a backup only. The break hand must still be maintained and all employees teaching customers should communicate that the GriGri should be used as a standard belay device not as an automatic device. The lever is only for releasing the automatic camming feature. The brake hand should still be employed as it is with a standard belay device and should never leave the rope.

## HARNESSES WARNINGS

- Always clip into the correct location on the sit harness. There is ONLY one correct place to clip in or tie in. Never clip into the gear loops, leg loops, or any other position on the harness other than the "Strong Points" or belay loop of the harness.
- Nicros strongly recommends removing gear loops from the harness in order to help reduce the risk of clipping into the incorrect "Strong Point". Please consult with the manufacturer before removing any gear loops or making alterations to the harness.

## HANDHOLD INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE

- Please refer to your Handhold FYI or obtain a copy at [www.nicros.com](http://www.nicros.com) or [www.climbingwallindustry.org](http://www.climbingwallindustry.org).

## PRODUCT RECALLS

- Petzl America recalls M34 BL Am'D Ball-Lock and M36 BL William Ball Lock carabiners with metal locking sleeves. Please visit [www.petzl.com](http://www.petzl.com) for more information.
- Spectrum Sports has issued a Maintenance and Safety Directive, which is to inform owners and operators of their responsibility to replace all pulleys bolts on all mobile and stationary climbing walls for safety reasons. Please contact Spectrum Sports for more information.
- Spectrum Sports has issued a Maintenance and Safety Directive, which is to inform owners and operators of their responsibility to maintain cables and hardware for safety reasons. Please contact Spectrum Sports for more information.
- MSA Recall of Climbing Wall Descenders. This product, which assists wall climbers during descent, has a faulty bearing that can cause the brakes to fail. For more information, please visit [www.msanet.com](http://www.msanet.com).
- Fastener & Connector Guidance for Treated ACQ Lumber can be found at [www.southernpine.com/pt07\\_userguide\\_fasteners.shtml](http://www.southernpine.com/pt07_userguide_fasteners.shtml).
- Liberty Mountain Announces Recall of Edelweiss Challenge Sit Harness with Para Buckle System. For more information contact Liberty Mountain at 800.366.2666 or [info@libertymountain.com](mailto:info@libertymountain.com).
- U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission: [www.cpsc.gov](http://www.cpsc.gov) or [www.recall-warnings.com/cpsc-category-climbing\\_equipment\\_1.html](http://www.recall-warnings.com/cpsc-category-climbing_equipment_1.html).

## INDUSTRY INFORMATION & RESOURCES

- Join the CWA and obtain the "INDUSTRY PRACTICES" and implement them: [www.climbingwallindustry.org](http://www.climbingwallindustry.org)
- [www.mountain-guiding.com/safety/recalls.html](http://www.mountain-guiding.com/safety/recalls.html)
- American Mountain Guide Association: [www.amga.com](http://www.amga.com)

This document is not intended to be all inclusive. Nicros strongly recommends reviewing the manufacturer's web site for proper use, application, inspection, maintenance, and retirement in accordance with the equipment manufacturer's guidelines.