



## Zedel

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To whom it may concern

N. réf. :

V. réf. : Re. : Petzl statement on continued use of the Petzl SHUNT (B03) in professional rope access work

The Shunt was designed as a back-up safety device for use in conjunction with a descender. It was primarily designed for use on double rope, but will operate on a single EN1891 low stretch rope. In addition to its use as an abseil security device, it was also certified to EN567 as an ascender.

PETZL has recognised that the Shunt is widely used in rope access as a back-up device mounted on a secondary single safety rope, attached to the user by a dynamic lanyard or 'cow's tail'. Because of the need for special training, this use falls outside the scope of the general instructions issued with the Shunt. The required skills are the field of the professionally trained and qualified rope access operative. The way in which the Shunt operates allows the user to pull it down the rope without prior de-weighting, similar to a prusik loop. This is a major advantage in normal use, but special training is required to ensure that this feature is not mis-applied in an emergency.

The use of the Shunt as a back-up device for loads greater than one person requires careful consideration. Other devices are currently available which are more suited to this task.

Professional operatives who choose to use the Shunt as a rope-access and work positioning back-up device must have received, and mastered, appropriate training. Responsibility for this remains with the employer and the user.

In 2005 Petzl introduced the ASAP mobile fall arrester for use on a single EN1891 low stretch rope. This device is appropriate in many rope access situations, including 2 person rescue, and is type approved to EN353-2 and EN12841 type A.

Yours faithfully

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