



Zedel

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Crolles, May 12th 2009

N. réf. : To whom it may concern

V. réf. :

Re. : Petzl statement on a special use of the Shunt

The Shunt is designed as a back-up safety device for use in conjunction with a descender. It is primarily designed for use on double rope, but will operate on a single rope. In addition to its use as an abseil security device, it is also certified to EN567 as an ascender. Normally, Petzl recommends ASAP as the back-up device in rope access.

In specific situations, PETZL recognises 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 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 (exactly like 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.

In specific situations, professional operatives may choose to use the Shunt as a rope-access and work positioning back-up safety device **if they have received and mastered IRATA training**. Responsibility for such use remains with the employer and the user.

We remind you also that in this application SHUNT is not covered by EN 353-2 and EN 12841 standards. For your information, the instructions for use are also available on our web site.

Yours faithfully,

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S.A.S. au capital de 2.400.000 EUR
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