

Lyon Guidance Note - Inspection and maintenance of Lyon wire anchor strops with coloured protective sleeves (additional information)

The protective sleeve fitted to Lyon wire anchor strops is designed to reduce wear and therefore offer a degree of protection to the strop and the surface of the structure.

Strops fitted with a coloured protective sleeve do not allow complete visual inspection of the wire; therefore, these models require an enhanced level of maintenance and inspection.



Maintenance

Lyon wire anchor strops are temporary transportable anchors and are meant for limited time placements. Typically, when used in the expected orientation the connection eyes of an anchor strop will face downwards, precluding the entry of water into the tubing. In these situations the risks of corrosion to the galvanised wire from 'pooling' of water within the sleeve are very limited.

Should the strop be used in other orientations, or in humid atmospheres, then there is the possibility of water collecting within in the strop tubing. In such circumstances it is important that wire anchor strops are left in place for the minimum time practicable and dried as per the general product instructions immediately after use.

Careful application of a water dispersant liquid, sprayed down the interior of the sleeve after use can reduce the potential for corrosion, but should not be seen as a substitute for correct drying and storage. Any excess dispersant liquid must be removed from the strop to prevent contamination of other items in the safety chain.

Inspection – protective sleeve

When inspecting wire anchor strops, the protective sleeve should be checked for damage. Damage to the sleeve alone is not considered to be 'safety critical' but it may expose the wire, allowing the wire or the surface of the structure to become damaged. In circumstances where the protection provided by the cover is critical to the safe and effective operation of the strop then the strop should be removed from service.

Where the presence of the protective sleeve is not critical, the sleeve may be cut from the strop and if the strop otherwise passes inspection it may continue to be used.

Inspection – wire

An undamaged protective sleeve would indicate that the wire within has not been subject to crushing, cutting or heavy abrasion.

In cases where the protective sleeve has been damaged, the exposed wire should be visually inspected as per the product instruction. If necessary, the sleeve may be cut from the strop to facilitate inspection. Depending on the outcome of the inspection the strop may require withdrawal from service.

The zinc galvanised wire used in Lyon anchor strops is resistant to corrosion. Observation indicates that should any corrosion occur it is most likely to be in the swage area, not on the plain wire. The construction of the swage has the potential to hold moisture if not dried correctly.

Corrosion may show as a white 'furring' on the surface of the swage and/or wire, or as a coloured staining of the wire; either localised where the zinc protective layer has been eroded away or as a similarly coloured watermark that follows the lay of the wire strands.

On all wire strops, either clear or coloured protective sleeve models, the presence of white furring or a corrosion watermark coming from the wire within the swage or protective sleeve should be a reason to withdraw the strop from service.

