

THE ESPY *Newsletter*

APRIL 2025

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OPEN DAY

YOU'RE INVITED!

23 MAY

2025



LIVE DEMOS CONFERENCES

EXPLORE OUR CENTRE



MEET THE TEAM

GIVEAWAY

EXHIBITIONS



GWO CERTIFIED TRAINING | STATUTORY INSPECTIONS | GEAR & PPE

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TEAM EXPERIENCE *Basic Safety Training*

Meet Sarah, who recently took on the challenge of Basic Safety Training. With a strong commitment to personal and professional growth, Sarah was motivated to improve her safety knowledge and develop the skills necessary to handle workplace emergencies. Sarah, reflects on her journey through sharing the lessons she learned, the challenges she faced, and how the experience has changed her approach to safety.

"When I began my Basic Safety Training, I didn't fully realize how much it would impact the way I approach not just my work, but life in general. What started as a way to improve my skills ended up being an eye-opening experience that changed how I think, react, and contribute to the safety of those around me.

When I decided to do my Basic Safety Training, one of my strongest motivations was to gain my skills and deepen my understanding of safety in the workplace. I've always believed that knowledge is power and in this case, it's the kind of power that can save lives. The training has not only boosted my confidence in handling

emergencies but has also empowered me to promote a stronger culture of safety wherever I go.

Going into the training, I felt a mix of nervousness and excitement. It was my first time doing something this intense, and naturally, I was a bit anxious about the unknown. But that nervous energy was balanced by a genuine enthusiasm. I was eager to learn, grow, and equip myself with tools that could make a real difference.

Out of all the modules, Working at Heights was definitely the most challenging for me. It pushed me in ways I didn't expect. Staying alert, being aware of my surroundings, and managing my own discomfort and fears tested my mental resilience. It wasn't easy, but overcoming those moments gave me a real sense of accomplishment.

One of the standout lessons I took from the training came during the Fire Awareness module. I learned just how important it is to correctly classify different types of fires and understand the different methods to

extinguish each one. It seems like a simple thing, but in an emergency, that knowledge can make all the difference.

Since completing the training, my entire perspective on safety has changed. I now understand that safety isn't just about knowing how to react in an emergency, it's about being proactive, identifying risks before they become hazards, and implementing preventative measures that protect everyone.

Would I encourage others to do this training? Absolutely. Basic Safety Training has been an incredibly valuable experience for me. It's equipped me with practical skills, life-saving knowledge, and a greater sense of responsibility. I truly believe that everyone should go through it, because being prepared isn't just smart, it's essential."

by Sarah Morris



WIND FARMS *Statutory Inspections*

Working at height is an everyday reality for wind turbine technicians, making safety systems like Fall Arrest Systems (FAS) not just important—but absolutely critical. These systems are designed to protect workers in high-risk environments, where even a minor failure can lead to serious injury or death. To ensure continued reliability, FAS must undergo thorough annual inspections. This article highlights the importance of these inspections, outlines common failure points, and emphasizes the role they play in maintaining a safe and compliant worksite.

Annual inspections of Fall Arrest Systems (FAS) are essential on wind farms due to the high-risk nature of the work environment. Wind turbines are typically located in remote or elevated areas, where technicians regularly operate at significant heights. In such conditions, a reliable and well-maintained FAS can mean the difference between safety and serious injury—or worse.

These systems, which include harnesses, lanyards, helmets, anchor points, sliders, and ladder/rail systems, must be inspected yearly to ensure functionality and compliance with safety standards. Regular inspections help detect wear, damage, or malfunctions that could compromise a worker's safety. They also confirm that each component continues to meet manufacturer guidelines, usage recommendations, and relevant legislative requirements for safety and performance. Turbine maintenance often involves climbing and working in confined spaces. The failure of

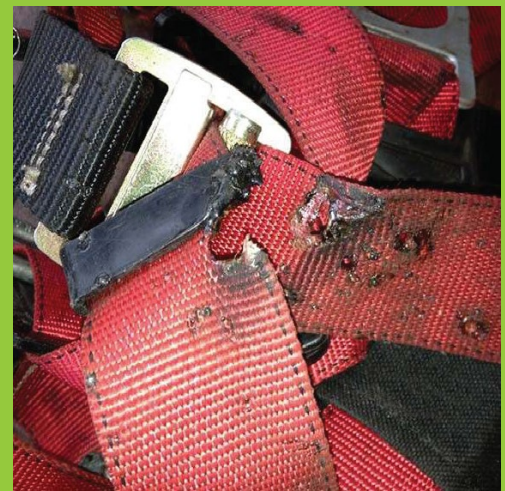
any component in the fall arrest system can lead to catastrophic outcomes. Routine checks provide peace of mind by ensuring all parts are fit for use and ready to perform in real-world conditions under varying environmental pressures.

Common Inspection Failures:

- **Harness Wear and Tear:** Exposure to UV, saltwater, or extreme temperatures weakens straps, frays stitching, and damages buckles—making harnesses unsafe over time.
- **Damaged Sliders, Lanyards, Ladder and Rail Systems:** These components suffer from frequent use and environmental exposure. For example, during construction, technicians often carry tools up ladders, increasing the risk of dropped objects damaging critical safety systems.
- **Anchor Point Degradation:** Anchor points can become loose, corroded, or worn over time, reducing their ability to secure the system.

Regular checks ensure they remain effective, structurally sound, and correctly installed. Consistent annual inspections allow wind farms to uphold safety standards, maintain regulatory compliance, and protect their workforce from potential hazards in one of the most physically demanding and dangerous industries.

by Joshua Bresler





Meet Francesca

SITE SERVICES

What is your role at SP-Wind?

I am part of the Site Service Department. My role helps make sure that everything on site runs smoothly and safely, supporting the technical teams in the field.

What work experience do you have?

I've worked in the telecommunications industry for the past six years as a Project Coordinator. This role strengthened my ability to handle multiple projects efficiently in a fast-paced environment.

What are some interesting things you have learnt in your time at SP-Wind?

During my time at SP-Wind, I've learned how important teamwork and precision are in the wind industry. I've also gained insight into the technical side of wind energy and how every role, no matter how small, contributes to a safer, more efficient operation.



FREEDOM DAY · 27 APRIL

Honouring the past. Empowering the future.
SP-Wind celebrates South Africa's journey to freedom.



FROM THE SP-WIND FAMILY