ICE AXES

1. Known product history

Any PPE showing unexpected degradation should be quarantined, pending a detailed inspection.

The user should:
- Provide precise information on the usage conditions.
- Report any exceptional event regarding his PPE.
  (Examples: fall or fall arrest, use or storage at extreme temperatures, modification outside manufacturer’s facilities...).

2. Preliminary observations

Verify the presence and legibility of the serial number and the CE mark.

Note: the serial number code on our products is evolving. Two types of code will coexist.
See below for details on each serial number code.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code A:</th>
<th>Code B:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year of manufacture</td>
<td>Year of manufacture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day of manufacture</td>
<td>Month of manufacture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name of inspector</td>
<td>Batch number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incrementation</td>
<td>Incrementation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Verify that the product lifetime has not been exceeded.
Compare with a new product to verify there are no modifications or missing parts.

3. Checking the condition of the shaft

- Check the condition of the shaft (marks, deformation, cracks...).
- Check the presence and condition of the rivets (marks, deformation, cracks, corrosion, absence of play...).
- Check the condition of the grip (marks, deformation, cracks, wear...).
- Check the condition of the spike (marks, deformation, cracks...).
4. Checking the condition of the ice axe head

- Check the condition of the pick (marks, deformation, cracks, corrosion, absence of play...).
- If the pick is rusted, scrub it with an abrasive sponge.
- Check the condition of the teeth and tip of the pick. If necessary, sharpen the points with a suitable tool. Do not go beyond the first tooth.
- Check the condition of the adze and/or hammer if present (deformation, marks, wear...).
- Verify the absence of play at the head/shaft junction.
- Verify proper screw tightness at the ice axe head (pick, weights, adze, hammer).
- Check the condition of the GRIPREST and/or TRIGREST (marks, deformation, cracks...).
- A small amount of play is acceptable for the GRIPREST.
- Verify that the TRIGREST locks properly.

5. Inspection of GRIPREST and/or TRIGREST if present
6. Appendix: examples of ice axes that are worn, or that should be retired

- Crack in shaft
- Worn ice axe
- Worn head
- Damaged finish
- Rusted pick
- Rusted pick
- Rusted pick
- Worn head
- Crack in shaft
- Worn ice axe