**PRESS RELEASE**

SCBA fall protection harness improves worker safety

***27 January, 2014:*** *The African division of MSA - a global leader in the development, manufacture and supply of sophisticated products that protect people's health and safety - has launched a new fall protection harness that is designed specifically for emergency situations that require both respiratory and fall protection equipment simultaneously.*

MSA Africa Sales & Marketing Director **Paul Gibbon** notes that the alphaFP SCBA fall protection harness can be swiftly and easily connected to any MSA SCBA backplate in confined space emergencies, in applications ranging from mining and construction, to painting and welding. "This unique product serves as a two-in-one solution for emergencies situations."

The alphaFP fall protection SCBA harness is highly versatile, and can be used for fall arrest, thanks to its solid stainless steel rings that serve as attachment points for fall arrest lanyards. What's more, D-rings on each side of the hip belt allow for safe positioning on an exposed work site, while the back D-ring can be used for safe rescue from confined spaces.

According to Gibbon, prolonged operations on a rope can be conducted in comfort, as the hip harness with both leg loops turns into a comfortable seat. "By virtue of its slide-through design, normal walking is unobstructed. The alphaFP fall protection harness offers the user the highest levels of safety in exposed situations, and is the ideal safety solution for height and shaft rescues, and also provides respiratory protection in tunnel operations."

Gibbon reveals that the harness has been designed with a front opening system that allows for fast and intuitive donning, even within the confines of a vehicle. “The MSA alphaFP has been designed for maximum user comfort, and boasts a sliding leg loop design that allows for freedom of walking. Two versions of the alphaFP harness are available in the local market, namely; the alphaFP pro and the alphaFP basic, which both come in standard or large sizes," he concludes.

***Ends***

**Notes to the Editor**
There are numerous photographs specific to this press release. Please visit [http://media.ngage.co.za](http://media.ngage.co.za/) and click the MSA Africa link.

**About MSA**
MSA been the world's leading manufacturer of high-quality safety products since 1914. MSA products may be simple to use and maintain, but they’re also highly-sophisticated devices and protective gear - the result of countless R&D hours, relentless testing, and an unwavering commitment to quality that saves lives and protects thousands of men and women each and every day. Many of MSA's most popular products integrate multiple combinations of electronics, mechanical systems, and advanced materials to ensure that users around the world remain protected in even the most hazardous of situations. MSA's dedication to safety has been the key to its impressive year-over-year growth. In eight of the past ten years, MSA has achieved record growth numbers, with annual revenues of more than US$1 billion.

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