



# SAFETY ALERT

## Failed Ratchet Puller

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### What happened?

Whilst tensioning the mains a ratchet puller has failed and dropped the mains and come-along to the ground.

Fortunately there were no injuries as the drop zone was maintained but as this could have caused serious injury this near miss is being escalated and investigated.

### What has been done?

- An ICAM investigation has commenced.
- Initial findings are that the attachment split pin in the half nut connection came loose (or was not fitted adequately).
- With a defective or loose split pin, the ratchet puller (under tension and rotation) is set to fail with a resultant High Potential Incidence.
- Endeavour Energy current issued ratchet pullers have full split pins and half split pin attachments and are covered/protected within a plastic shroud.
- The Work Practices Review Committee are liaising with the supplier and Endeavour Energy CLF.

### What you need to do

Workers are reminded that prior to use of any tools and equipment, a **pre use inspection** is to be carried out.

‘All tools including ladders and all safety equipment must be visually inspected and checked for serviceability prior to every use’.

In relation to ratchet pullers the integrity of the split pins should be checked.

‘Where an item of equipment/tool is found to be faulty or fails a test at inspection, it must be immediately withdrawn from use, quarantined from serviceable equipment and tagged with a Warning (Hazardous Condition) Tag, in accordance with Company Procedure GSY 0065 – Warning Tag.’

### Who you should contact

For details of the incident:

- Andrew Chaney, Lead Investigator HSE AI on 0417 675 460
- Michael Johansen, WPRC Coordinator on 0408 693 890
- Lee Karipidis, WHS Business Partner on 0438 696 468

### Procedures, WPIs or SWMS to adhere to

- GSY 0127 Electrical Workers Safety Equipment Inspection
- FSY 0059 Vehicle/Personal Safety Equipment Inspection
- SWM 6.008 Install or Replace Underslung Link (USL) and LV Links

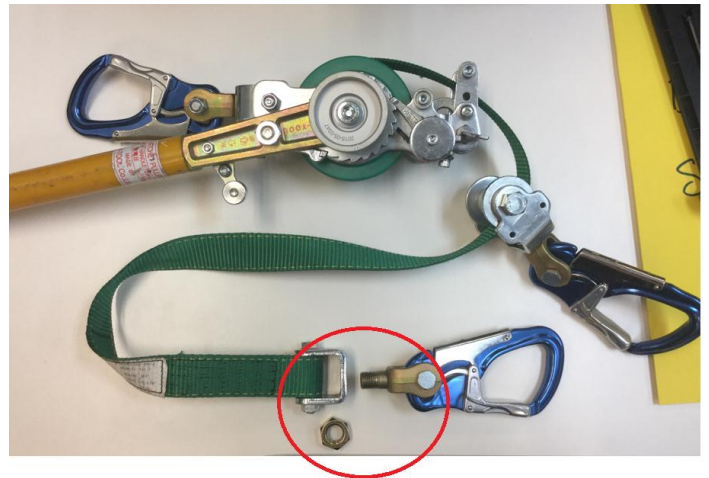


Figure 1. Red circle denotes the area of half pin dislodgement and subsequent attachment failure.



Figure 2 shows clearly the split pin attachment in the nut depicting a safe operating condition.