

Static ROPE LOG

Important Information
Keep this log with your rope



...BlueWater Ropes



BlueWater Ropes

History of Manufacturing

BlueWater traces its roots to a family owned business that began manufacturing ropes and cordage in 1903. Our modern history began in 1969 when we manufactured the first American made kernmantle caving rope. This rope went on to become the now famous BlueWater II+, the Standard in quality and durability.

In 1975 we introduced the first low elongation rope for Fire Rescue and Industrial use. Our NFPA certified Safeline series of rope, featuring our innovative Superline core strands, have become the most widely used ropes of this type in the country and are the first choice of rescue organizations around the world.

We followed in 1982 with the first commercially available line of UIAA certified dynamic ropes made in the U.S.A. These ropes rapidly gained popularity with climbers due to their unsurpassed performance and quality.

In 1995 BlueWater became the first American manufacturer in our industry to obtain ISO 9000 certification. ISO is an internationally recognized Quality Management system. It insures the highest possible quality in manufacturing and service.

Constant monitoring of raw materials, component parts and in-line processes by our fully equipped laboratory is an essential part of our ISO program. This guarantees no deviation in the manufacturing process. The ISO program requires substantial dedication from BlueWater but we know it is worth the effort. It insures you are receiving undeniably the best products available today. The entire program is third party certified to meet the rigid ISO standards guaranteeing our quality system is everything we say it is.

Rope Use and Care

WARNING: Failure to follow all instructions on the proper use and care of your rope can result in serious injury or death to the user or bystanders. It is the rope owner's responsibility to educate users of this equipment of all points included in the use instructions in their entirety. Furthermore, any person using BlueWater equipment in any manner is personally responsible for learning the proper techniques involved, assumes all risks, and accept full and complete responsibility for any and all damages or injury of any kind, including death, which may result from the use of any BlueWater equipment. There is absolutely no substitute for professional training in the proper techniques necessary for the use of this equipment.

This equipment is intended for use in rappelling, caving, rescue, military and industrial use. It is considered a low elongation rope and must never be used in situations when the anchor point is below the user. If the anchor point is to be below the user a dynamic rope must be utilized [See EN 892 Dynamic Mountaineering ropes]. Be sure every anchor point is suitable for the load to be applied. All "slack" in the rope between the user and anchor point must be removed prior to applying a load of any kind to reduce the possibility of accidentally subjecting the rope, anchor points and persons to an accidental dynamic loading or impact force.

Persons using this equipment must be fully aware of any physical limitations they may have. Use of this rope could involve physical exertion beyond an acceptable level for persons who are in a high-risk category for any type of medical condition. Those under the influence of alcohol or drugs that may impair their abilities or judgment must not use this equipment.

Users of this equipment must have professional training in the proper techniques involved for the safe use of this product. Improper use of this equipment will result in injury or death to users and / or bystanders. A source for professional instruction can be obtained by calling us at 770-834-7515 during regular business hours EST. or from your local shop or in the "links" section of our website www.BlueWaterropes.com under *American Mountain Guides Association* or directly: American Mountain Guides Association

[AMGA] 1209 Pearl Street Suite 12 and 14, Boulder, CO. 80302.
Telephone 303-271-0984, Fax 303-271-1377.
Website: www.amga.com. Email info@amga.com.

Users must be aware that prior to use of this equipment a suitable rescue plan should be evaluated in the event of a mishap. The plan should include at minimum details of how to affect a rescue, location of the closest rescue squad and nearest medical treatment. All parties should be aware of any drug allergies or specific medical needs of all persons in the group.

This equipment must never be modified from its original design. Modifications will result in an unsafe product. The manufacturer does not recommend modifications to this product in any manner whatsoever. Modifications void any warranty.

This equipment must not be used for any applications outside its rated load limits or for applications for which it is not intended. The user must also be aware of limitations of other equipment used in conjunction with this product to be fully assured they are compatible with this product as part of a total system. The use of non-compatible equipment within a system can lead to catastrophic failure of the system and individual parts within a system.

All equipment must be inspected by a qualified person before and after each use. Ropes must be inspected visually and manually [with bare hands] along every inch of its length. It is the user's responsibility to know the history of his / her rope and make the decision as to when a rope must be retired. **The manufacturer cannot guarantee the specifications of a used rope.** The pre and post use inspection must be noted in the accompanying rope log. Additional rope logs can be downloaded from our website www.bluewaterropes.com from the "downloads" section.

If your rope does not meet the following inspection criteria it MUST be retired. This includes all points in the inspection criteria as well as loss of faith or doubt as to the serviceability for the rope. All ropes deemed unsuitable for use must be destroyed by cutting into sections of less than ten feet to prevent future use by an unknowing person.

When to retire your rope - The following are general guidelines that can assist you in deciding when to retire a rope. If your rope has any of these problems listed in the inspection criteria it must be retired.

INSPECTION CRITERIA

Abrasion / Sheath Wear - the core is exposed or more than half of the outer sheath yarns are abraded.

Fraying - indicates broken or damaged sheath bundles which is an indication of abrasion or overloading.

Glazing and / or glossy marks or hard, stiff areas signify heat damage. Typically this is the result of contact with a descender that has become overheated in a fast rappel.

Discoloration - a change in the rope's original color is an indication of chemical damage or exposure to the elements of nature including Ultraviolet [UV] radiation.

Exposed core fibers indicate severe sheath damage and possible core damage.

A Lack of Uniformity in Diameter or Size indicates core damage. This is noted by a depression in the diameter of the rope, lumpiness of the rope or exposed core strands protruding from the rope.

Inconsistency in texture of the rope can be an indication of excessive wear. This is most noted as soft or stiff areas in the rope.

Use / Age - the rope can become simply worn out over time. We recommend a low elongation / static rope be removed from service no more than ten years from its manufacture date.

Loss of Faith - if you feel uncomfortable for any reason or suspect there may be a problem with your rope it must be retired and destroyed.

CAUTIONS ON ROPE USE

Ropes designated Type A [under CE guidelines] are more suitable for rope access and work positioning than are Type B [under CE guidelines] ropes which have a lower strength and typically a smaller diameter.

Terminations are best accomplished by using a retraced figure 8 knot. This knot results in the least amount of strength loss possible. Choose your knots wisely as some knots may decrease the working strength of your rope by up to 40%.

All ropes should be marked with end tape listing the length of each specific rope to avoid accidents.

Sheath abrasion - Take care to protect your rope from abrasion. Always use a proper rope pad or edge guard. Sheath damage is the most common cause of early rope retirement. Be sure to properly pad surfaces to which the rope is exposed. Be especially sure to inspect hardware to be used in conjunction with the rope for flaws that may damage the sheath strands.

Avoid stepping on your rope - Beside the potential of cutting, stepping on a rope will grind grit into the core which can cause internal abrasion. A ground cloth should be used to keep the rope from being in direct contact with mud, dirt and grit.

Keep your rope clean - Dirt, mud, and grit will shorten the life of your rope by increasing internal and external abrasion. Wash your rope occasionally in cold water with small amounts of mild soap. DO NOT USE ANY CLEANERS WITH BLEACH OR BLEACH SUBSTITUTES. Rinse the rope in several baths of clean water to remove all traces of soap residue. The rope must be loosely coiled and air-dried in the shade away from direct sunlight. Do not dry rope in a clothes dryer.

Open Flame and High Temperatures - Do not expose any rope to flame or high temperatures as it will melt or burn causing rope failure. Carry and store the rope so it is protected against flame or high temperatures. The melting point of type 6 nylon is 419 to 430 degrees Fahrenheit. The melting point of polyester is 500 degrees Fahrenheit.

Accidental Dynamic Loading - Although your BlueWater low elongation rope is designed to help absorb the energy of **ACCIDENTAL** dynamic loading the user is responsible for checking rigging to avoid dynamic loading in any manner whatsoever. If an accidental dynamic loading does occur, the rope must be retired and destroyed.

- Always check every piece of gear in the system to insure compatibility. Be sure the hardware you use is designed for the rope diameter you choose.

Always use proper rappelling and belaying techniques - Fast rappels. Bounding or swinging, positioning the rope over a sharp edge, dynamically loading a low elongation / static rope are some of the examples of uses that damage your rope and will cause failure and injury or death. Any belay device, ascender, descender or similar hardware will put bends in a rope and have the potential to contribute to rope abrasion. Avoid all worn out hardware as it can destroy your rope. Fast rappels will cause excessive heat from friction that will damage your rope. This heat will melt the sheath fibers causing a glazing or stiffening effect that dramatically shortens the life of your rope. **Always** take care to rappel and lower slowly and in control.

Chemical Contamination - Protect your rope from exposure to harsh chemicals. Exposure to chemicals will cause failure that can result in injury or death. **DO NOT** allow your rope to come into contact with any compounds containing acids, alkalis, oxidizing agents, phenol or bleaching compounds. Be especially careful to avoid contact with battery acid. **Remember - Contaminants can be in the form of liquids, solids, mists and vapors.** Contamination may, or may not, be visible and may, or may not be, detectable. If you suspect your rope has been contaminated it must be destroyed by cutting into unusable sections to prevent future use by anyone.

Ultraviolet Ray Exposure - Ropes should always be stored in a rope bag to reduce the possibility of exposure to contaminants and unnecessary exposure to Ultraviolet [UV] rays. Solar degradation should be checked by rubbing the surface of the rope with the thumbnail. If degradation has taken place, the surface material will come off as powder.

Warranty Disclaimer: If any of the Safety and / or Inspection criteria are not met the Warranty on this product is considered void.

Additional Information regarding Life Safety Ropes can be found in NFPA 1500, *Standard on Fire Department Occupational Safety and Health Program*, and NFPA 1983, *Standard on Fire Service Life Safety Rope and System Components*. NFPA publications from National Fire Protection Association, 1 Batterymarch Park, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA. 02169-7471 or www.nfpa.org.

Records to be maintained by the owner and / or user[s] of this rope include: purchase date, serial number and sales receipt. Inspection records to be recorded on the log in the following pages include: date of use, location of use, conditions of use [weather training, rescue etc.], pre and post use inspection and the inspector's name.

Maintain all original product labels and information log. If they are removed to be retained in a permanent rope record, insure copies are made and kept with the rope for the safety and benefit of the end user.

BlueWater Warranty: Bluewater products are guaranteed to be free from defects in material and workmanship for the useful life of the product. This warranty DOES NOT cover normal wear and tear or abuse due to improper use or modification of the product. Accordingly, BlueWater will repair or replace, at no charge, any defective product returned to us. We strongly urge consumers to return product through the dealer network. If the circumstances do not allow return through the dealer please contact BlueWater directly to obtain return information. Do not return product without obtaining a return authorization number from BlueWater. Bluewater reserves the right to inspect products prior to determination of warranty issue with any of our products.

DATE: 01-01-01

LOCATION: Westfield training facility

CONDITIONS: Sunny 80F

INSPECTION CRITERIA:

Pass (P) or Fail (F) Pre-Use / Post-Use

Abrasion / Fraying	P	/	P
Sheath Glazing	P	/	P
Uniformity of Diam.	P	/	P
Discoloration	P	/	P
Flexibility	P	/	P
Exposed core fibers	P	/	P
Age	P	/	P
Loss of Faith	P	/	P

INSPECTOR'S NAME: John Doe

DATE: _____

LOCATION: _____

CONDITIONS: _____

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INSPECTOR'S NAME: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Rope Model: _____

Serial Number: _____

Length: _____

Diameter: _____

Color: _____

Date In Service: _____

BlueWater

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Learn more about
our products at > www.bluewaterropes.com
