SMC GUIDELINES FOR THE PERMANENT MARKING OF HARDWARE

Seattle Manufacturing Corporation (SMC) has released guidelines for the proper way to permanently mark their mountaineering, rescue, industrial and worksafety products. This information is intended to serve as a clear and simple guide concerning what is acceptable and conversely, what is not acceptable when permanently marking by engraving into the surface of various types of hardware.

It is only acceptable to use a hand held electric type engraver to place identifying marks on hardware. DO NOT strike with a hammer and stamps or ever use other similar methods. Once the marking process has been completed ALWAYS inspect the product for proper fit and function PRIOR to returning it to service. If you ever have concerns or questions you are advised to contact SMC directly at 18004266251 or info@smcgear.net.

CARABINERS

For carabiners it is recommended to mark along the spine of the frame. DO NOT mark on or near the lock or pivot tabs of the frame and stay away from rope bearing areas. DO NOT mark on the gate. For steel and stainless products use a medium setting with medium to heavy pressure. For Aluminum products use a low setting with light to medium pressure. Depth of engraving equal to the thickness of a piece of paper should be enough to last the life of the product.

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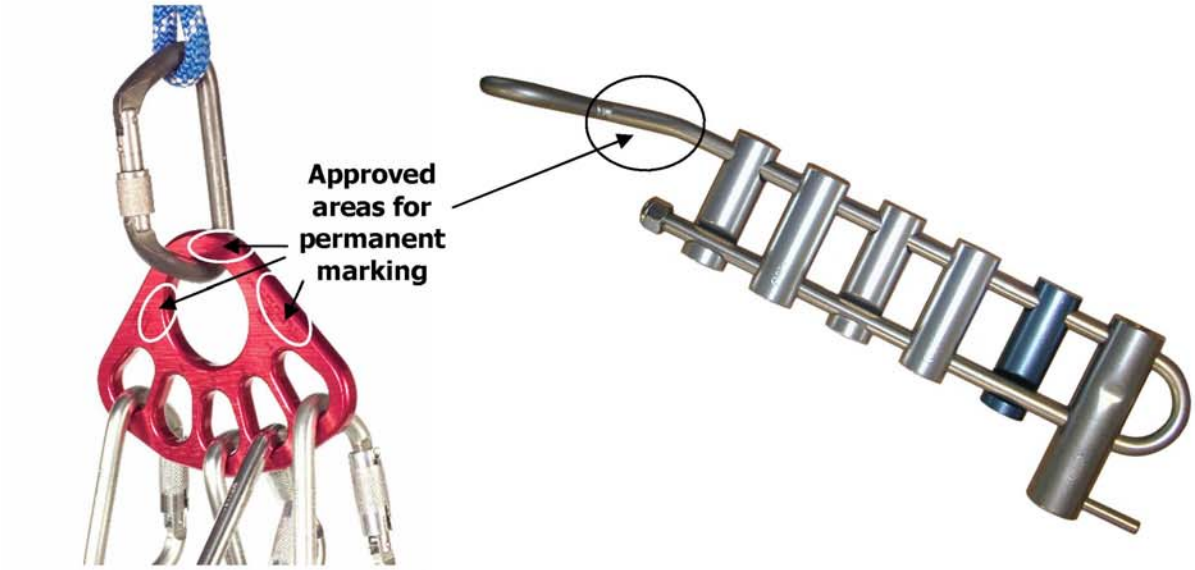
PULLEYS

For pulleys it is recommended to mark on the flat outside surface around the axle. **DO NOT** mark **ON OR NEAR** the carabiner hole at the top of a pulley or anywhere on the beckett of a double pulley. Also, it is important to stay away from all rope bearing areas.



RAPPEL RACKS & BARS, RIGGING PLATES & ROPE PROTECTION

When marking any other hardware items always use caution and stay away from all carabiner holes, rope bearing surfaces and surrounding areas.

COATINGS
Most aluminum products are anodized. Some slight cosmetic oxidation may occur over time and this is a natural occurrence.

Alloy steel parts are typically zinc plated. Engraving these products will remove the zinc plating in that particular area. One advantage of zinc plating is that it will move over and protect the exposed base material (selfsacrificing). This however will eventually lead to the zinc in the area being consumed and may allow rust to begin to form. To help prevent corrosion, periodically wipe down plated products with LPS or a similar product.

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As a leading manufacturer of high quality worksafety, rescue, and mountaineering gear; SMC puts a high priority upon providing equipment solutions that address real issues and problems occurring on a daily basis. An ISO9001 company, many of SMC's products are certified by independent third party institutions like Underwriter's Laboratories. For 40 years SMC's goal has been to design and then manufacture innovative gear that sets the standard for quality, reliability, and functionality. For more information on SMC and the company's products visit (www.smcgear.net) or call toll free at 18004266251.