

April 25, 2019

## **ALERT TO THE WIND ENERGY INDUSTRY**

### **Compatibility & Safety of the Power Climber Wind IBEX Climb Assist System & Climbing Ladder Fall Arrest Systems (CLFAS)**

In the interest of worker safety in the wind energy industry, and as a follow-up to the alert, issued by 3M and dated April 25, 2019, Power Climber Wind (PCW), a SafeWorks company, hereby alerts the industry to the compatibility and safety of the IBEX Climb Assist System, in reference to the ANSI/ASSE Z359.16-2016 standard for Climbing Ladder Fall Arrest Systems (CLFAS), as follows:

1. PCW is the leading provider of climb assist systems to wind turbine OEMs (original equipment manufacturers) and owners in North America. Since 2008, PCW has installed its IBEX climb assist in more than 35,000 turbines.
2. PCW has a strong reputation as a leader in worker safety and investigates, in conjunction with our customers, any field incident involving the IBEX system. We are not aware of an incident where the CLFAS failed to activate as designed in the event of a fall where the climber was also attached to the IBEX system.
3. PCW has been a leader in compatibility testing since day one and has thoroughly and rigorously tested the compatibility of the IBEX against a range of leading CLFAS (including the LAD-SAF X2 and others) pursuant to applicable ANSI standards and to various standards globally. PCW has shared the successful results of these tests with our customers, including wind turbine OEMs and owners. Such testing has consistently shown that the IBEX does not prevent the CLFAS from operating as designed in the event of a fall. There is **NO EVIDENCE NOR SUGGESTION OF INCOMPATIBILITY** from such testing or from the entire field track record. There is **ZERO** evidence that the IBEX and the LAD-SAF X2 systems are incompatible.
4. We regret any inconvenience that our customers may experience as a result of recent announcements by CLFAS manufacturers. We will continue to work with our customers to provide them the documented, transparent and rigorous compatibility testing we have done to date so that their technicians can keep working, confident in the safety of the IBEX system with their CLFAS. Customers should be assured that their people are safe when using the IBEX climb assist.

**If you have any questions or would like more information,  
please call Power Climber Wind, a SafeWorks company, at 1.877.729.4631.**