



Safety Alert



INCIDENT TITLE:

Missing nut on Ratchet strap

TIME AND DATE OF INCIDENT:

25/01/2023

INCIDENT DETAIL :

Whilst driving on a public highway with a load of timber on the roof rack, the driver heard a vibration sound from the load. It sounded like a metal hitting metal vibration sound.

The driver pulled over to the side of the road to investigate and found that the nut for the bolt which secures the webbing to the ratchet was missing and the bolt had come out at one end.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Besides holes, tears, and knots, check for these sometimes less-obvious indications of wear:

- Broken stitching in the stitch patterns
- Weld splatter, or any areas of melting or charring
- Damage caused from UV rays: colour looks bleached, or webbing feels stiff.
- Small particles embedded in the webbing
- Burnt areas caused by acid, alkali, or other chemicals
- Nuts and Bolts and all moving parts all in place and tight on the ratchet and hook is locking.
- Cracks, pits, dents or corrosion on ratchets, cam buckles, hooks, and other fittings.

BEST PRACTICE:

- Visually inspect strop/ratchet prior to use.
- Remove the strap/ratchet from service if you notice any of the indications listed above during inspection.
- Clean straps using dish soap and warm water only.
- Have the right size for the job.
- Try and keep a strap and a ratchet as a pair.

IMMEDIATE INTERIM ACTIONS:

- Pulled over to investigate suspected loose load.
- Ratchet removed from service.
- Waited on the side of the road for a replacement.
- Replacement ratchet brought from Benmore and load resecured.

THIS SAFETY ALERT HAS BEEN ISSUED BY THE HEALTH & SAFETY TEAM. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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