



Lines

Newsletter of the
Climbing Wall Association

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Intro

Happy New Year from the CWA! We hope that you enjoyed your holidays and are well rested for the year to come.

As 2013 begins, we are working hard to deliver this year's Climbing Wall Summit. With the help of our sponsors, we are moving forward. We are excited to see all of the new session proposals and ideas come to life for the conference in May. Registration will be opening soon, so please check the [CWA web site](#) regularly.

Our 2013 resolution is to continue to promote the health, growth, independence, and professionalism of our industry. Please continue to support us in these efforts by [renewing your CWA membership](#) or [joining the CWA](#) this year.

Sincerely,

William Zimmermann,

Climbing Wall Association

Perfect Descent Achieves CE Certification

Perfect Descent Model 220 Auto Belay has received final certification for European safety standard BS EN 341-2011 "Personal protective equipment against falls from a height. Descender devices. [See More>](#)

Lead Falls, Belay Failures Highlight Climbing Incident Study

A recent study by Rocky Mountain Rescue Group cites lead falls and belay failures as the top two types of climbing incidents over the last 14 years. The study, based on data from Boulder County and Eldorado Canyon State Park, indicates that 20% of incidents could have been avoided by better belay practices. These practices include tying a knot in the end of the rope and wearing gloves while belaying. [Read the full article](#)

Timmy O'Neill, Paradox Sports to Offer Adaptive Climbing Workshop

CWA is pleased to announce that Timmy O'Neill and Paradox Sports will be leading an adaptive climbing pre-conference workshop at the 2013 Climbing Wall Summit. The workshop will include an overview of climbing with various disabilities, and the language, dialog and information concerned with disability. Participants will break into smaller groups to utilize different systems and discuss improvisation, adaptation, and safety concerns. [View the pre-conference offerings>](#)

Common Practices: Preventing Un-clipped Auto Belay Climbers

Climber failure to clip in is the most commonly reported auto belay incident by CWA members. Climbing walls across the nation are creating solutions to help mitigate this risk. Common solutions include signage, auto belay orientation or training, required buddy checks, lighted holds from companies such as So iLL, the Nicros A.B.S.S. (tm), even auto belay proficiency testing. Has your gym implemented a different practice with success? Let us know! We will publish the best answers in next month's newsletter.

[Tell us about your auto belay safety measures>](#)

TRUBLUE, Boston Rock Gym Partner for Charity

CWA is pleased to announce Nicros and Veracity Insurance as the newest lead sponsors for the 2013 Climbing Wall Summit. Sponsor packages are available at a variety of price points and include exhibit booths, event and web exposure, and other package-specific perks. [View the event details](#) to find the best fit for your organization.

Legal Case Study: Climb Nashville

In 2007, the State of Tennessee proposed to add climbing walls to its list of venues regulated by the Elevator Board, which governs Tennessee amusement parks. If passed, climbing facilities in the state would be subject to the same inspection requirements as roller coasters and other amusement-type rides. [See how Climb Nashville and CWA took action>](#)