

**registered letter with return receipt**

AVANTI Wind Systems A/S  
Managing Director  
Ronnevangs Allé 6  
3400 Hillerod  
DÄNEMARK

Bergisch Gladbach, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016

Dear customer,

Further to our recent communications about the fatal accident which occurred in Storkow, Germany in September 2015 and to the current findings of the investigation, we would like to remind you some important information about our products.

The service lift installed in the wind-tower in Storkow was supplied by the company AVANTI; this service lift was equipped with two Tractel Greifzug components: a tirak™ hoist and a blocstop™ BSO fall arrest device.

The **blocstop™ BSO safety device BSO 500** was delivered to AVANTI in 2002.

As indicated in our previous communication letters, we would like to highlight and repeat that **the 3 daily pre-use functional tests are mandatory** (Test 1+2+3).

Test 1: Reset blocstop™ by pushing control lever until it locks 'open'. Sharply pull wire rope in arrow direction away from the blocstop™ anchor point. blocstop™ must close after a maximum distance of 12 cm and hang tightly on the wire rope.

**Alternative Test 1:**

Reset blocstop™ by pushing control lever until it locks 'open'. Allow the blocstop™ to fall on a free hanging wire rope. blocstop™ must close after a maximum distance of 12 cm and hang tightly on the wire rope.

Test 2: Reset blocstop™ by pushing control lever until it locks 'open'. Lift

platform or load at 1 m above ground or safe surface. Press the SAFETY STOP button. Lower platform or load and check that the blocstop™ holds platform or load. Raise platform or load until the blocstop™ releases the load. Reset blocstop™ by pushing control lever until it locks 'open'.

Test 3: During working operation centrifugal weights must rotate smoothly and continuously. Check regularly through the window.

If for one of the 3 above checks the blocstop™ fails, the blocstop has to be replaced and returned to a repair centre authorized by Tractel® for inspection. Without performing these tests, the blocstop™ BSO 500 shall not be used. Should the daily pre-use tests not be possible due to the design of the service lift, the manufacturer of the service lift/ of the windmill has to be informed without delay.

Independent investigation reports do proof that the tests had not been done on the day of the accident.

In addition to these daily tests, we remind you that according to our operation and installation manual, the blocstop™ BSO 500 safety device also requires an annual safety inspection. The safety inspection must be carried out annually and may only be undertaken by personnel trained and certified by Tractel. Depending of the findings during the annual safety inspection, the blocstop may require a maintenance, which may only be undertaken by maintenance personnel trained and certified by Tractel.

In case the BSO rollers are damaged or below the wear limit, they must always be exchanged as pairs (driven roller and pressing roller).

**The safe operation of the BSO blocstop 500 is subject to the effective performance of the annual inspection and maintenance and to the effective performance of the daily tests according to the manufacturer's specifications.**

In summary, Tractel Greifzug has always been committed to supply safe and reliable products. All the products are sold with an operation and installation manual, containing several instructions on daily use, inspection and maintenance, which have to be fully known and strictly respected by any operator. In case the manufacturer's instructions on operation, inspection and /or maintenance are not applied, our products must not be used.

In case you have resold our products, please forward this letter to your customers / the users of the product.

For questions please contact Norbert Kirschner under +49 2202 1004 831 or per email: [norbert.kirschner@tractel.com](mailto:norbert.kirschner@tractel.com).

With our best Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Melder", written in a cursive style.

Martin Melder  
Managing Director