

Recall of Simond Rocky straight and bent gate carabiners and quickdraws with a defect in the deformation of the rivet heads.



As part of our ongoing quality and safety assessment procedures, we have identified a defect in the deformation of the rivet heads in a very small number of **Rocky** carabiners. The defective non-deformed rivet has two pointed ends and could potentially become dislodged from its housing in certain circumstances.

As a precaution we ask that you check your Rocky carabiner before next using it. See below for details:

Photo n°1: identifying the carabiners involved



Photo n°2: checking for the correct deformation of the rivet head

If you find you have a **defective carabiner**, it is **extremely important that you stop using it immediately**. Email us at the address below, so that we can organise the recall of the defective carabiner and provide you with a replacement.

If you have any doubts about the rivet heads on your carabiner, email us with a photo of the product so that we can check it.

information@simond.fr

The products involved in this recall are **straight and bent gate Rocky carabiners and quickdraws** manufactured by **Simond in 2012 and 2013**. These can be easily identified by the serial number on the spine of the carabiner: **xxxx12CE0333** or **xxxx13CE0333**.

Here at Simond we have already tested and passed as safe those products stamped **Cxxxx12CE0333** and **Cxxxx13CE0333**.



Photo n°3: serial numbers with the year of manufacture already passed and those to be checked

List of Rocky products requiring verification:



65297 POLISHED ROCKY STRAIGHT GATE CARABINER
65497 POLISHED ROCKY BENT GATE CARABINER
821603 SIMOND ROCKY QUICKDRAW
1226625 SIMOND ROCKY SCREWGATE CARABINER
1226628 MIXED ROCKY WIREGATE QUICKDRAW
1603101 X5 MIXED ROCKY WIREGATE PACK
1647706 BLUE ROCKY CARABINER
1647707 BROWN ROCKY CARABINER
1647708 YELLOW ROCKY CARABINER
1704299 X5 ROCKY PACK
1713706 ROCKY 17CM QUICKDRAW SET
1759996 BLUE ROCKY QUICKDRAW SET
1759997 BLUE ROCKY SCREWGATE CARABINER
1760147 YELLOW ROCKY SCREWGATE CARABINER

Photo n°4: list of products involved

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Why are you recalling these straight and bent gate Rocky carabiners?

We have heard from two climbers who noticed that the rivet heads on their Rocky carabiner were not deformed. Thankfully, the defect was clearly visible and was spotted before the carabiner was used, thus not endangering the lives of the climbers involved. We have already checked over 108,000 carabiners in our warehouses, with our retailers and with our customers and have not found any defects. The safety of climbers using our products is our absolute priority and we have decided to widen our verification process to include all our 2012 and 2013 carabiners and to inform our customers of this risk.

2. What are the potential risks if the rivet head on a carabiner is not deformed?

Our tensile tester and drop tower tests show that the deformation or non-deformation of the rivet heads does not affect the strength of the carabiner when the rivet remains centred within the gate. The main risk is if the rivet jams to one side and/or becomes dislodged from its housing after a fall or heavy blow. In this case the carabiner no longer functions at its optimum strength and can break at half its rated strength. Using it in these circumstances could endanger your life.

3. Why only the straight and bent gate Rocky carabiners?

The Rocky wiregate carabiners do not have the same rivet system. Nevertheless, as stated in our user manuals, you should always check all your safety equipment before you use it.

4. Why only carabiners manufactured in 2012 and 2013?

The first Rocky carabiner found with a non-deformed rivet head was manufactured in December 2012 and the second was made in June 2013. As a precaution we have widened our verification process to include all our Rocky carabiners made in 2012 and 2013. As mentioned in the previous point and in all our user instructions, it is vital that customers always check their climbing equipment before they use it.

5. What caused the defect and what is being done to remedy the situation?

An extremely rare combination of mechanical and human factors led to the rivet heads on these two carabiners not being deformed. As soon as we learned of this problem we took action to test our entire stock. We also immediately took steps to re-enforce our manufacturing standards in our factory in Les Houches to prevent a recurrence of this problem, in accordance with our quality assurance policy and ISO9001 certification.

6. Can I test the rivet heads of my carabiner myself?

Yes, absolutely. A rivet head that has not been deformed will have two pointed ends. If this is the case, the rivet has not been deformed and risks sliding out of its housing. If the rivet head has been correctly deformed there is no risk of this happening. To check, simply feel the rivet heads. There is no risk of being mistaken. See photo n°2 above.

If you have any doubts, send us an email with a photo of your carabiner or ask your Simond retailer or other climbing equipment professional, as detailed in the user manual, to check it for you.

7. How do I return a defective carabiner to Simond?

First of all, please contact us by email: information@simond.fr so that we can check your carabiner. If it does have a defect there are two options:

- You can return your defective carabiner to the Decathlon store of your choice, which will send it to us and provide you with a new carabiner or a refund.
- You can also return your defective carabiner to Simond SAS by post. We will reimburse your postage costs and send out a new carabiner as soon as possible.

8. Do I have to automatically return my Rocky carabiner to Simond?

No, you do not have to return your carabiner if it does not have a defect, see the list in photo n°2 above for those products involved in this recall. We want to be completely clear with our customers as to the risks of a potentially defective product. We would also like to prevent our customers from wasting their time, as it is very easy to check for compliant carabiners. None of our tests of over 108,000 products have revealed any defective rivet heads. We endeavour to make our products accessible to all customers and would like to avoid any wastage. Nevertheless, if you have the slightest doubt about your Simond Rocky carabiner, please contact us or visit the Decathlon store of your choice to request a refund or an exchange.

9. Can I purchase Rocky carabiners in complete confidence?

Yes, of course. We have contacted all our retail outlets and they have tested all their stock. To make the work of our retailers easier, we have stamped all 2012 and 2103 Rocky carabiners checked and passed in our factory and Decathlon stores with the letter C (see photo n°3 above).

10. Where are Simond carabiners made and who checks them?

All our carabiners are designed and made in our factory in Les Houches, France. Our machine-operators and fitters manufacture and test 100% of our products. Every Simond staff member is either a climber or has family and/or friends who are, and is committed to ensuring that the safety of the climbers using our products remains their absolute priority. Since receiving the first defective carabiner, we have taken every step both in terms of the machinery and the human checking process, to improve our vigilance and to continue to provide technical products with which you can climb in complete confidence, whether you are a professional or an amateur climber.

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