Description

SAFETY ANCHOR

[0001] This invention relates to a safety anchor which may be deployed on a rooftop or elsewhere, such as an accessible structure of considerable height, so as to provide protection for a user against a fall from height.

[0002] Safety anchors are well known for protecting users against falls from height. Once connected to the safety anchor, the user is safe to work around a rooftop or like structure to a distance as far as an attachment lanyard allows. In the event of a fall, the roof anchor deploys to absorb the fall energy of up to a predetermined number of users, for example up to three users. Such safety anchors may be integrated into a system of identical safety anchors joined by a guide cable or guide wire.

[0003] There are problems with existing arrangements because the integrity of the safety anchor generally requires to be tested each year. Existing safety anchors are not always resistant to the forces applied during inspection and testing and can become damaged and require replacement.

[0004] Embodiments~~It is therefore an object~~ of the present invention seek to provide a safety anchor which can overcome~~s~~, or at least ameliorate~~s~~ the above-described problems.

[0005] According to an aspect of the present invention there is provided a safety anchor comprising: a coiled spring; a stud extending substantially centrally within the spring, the stud being formed with a portion of reduced strength; and means for securing ends of the spring to the stud at each side of the portion of reduced strength, wherein the spring is permanently secured to the stud.

[0006] ~~The portion of reduced strength may comprise a portion of reduced cross-section of the stud, for example a necked portion, apertured portion or cut-away portion of the stud.~~According to another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a safety anchor comprising: a coiled spring; a stud extending substantially centrally within the spring, the stud being formed with a portion of reduced strength; and means for securing ends of the spring to the stud at each side of the portion of reduced strength, wherein the spring is removably secured to the stud by way of a clamp in the region of each end of the spring.

[0007] ~~The spring may be in the form of a barrel spring, cylindrical spring or conical spring.~~

[0008] ~~The spring may be permanently secured to the stud or may be removably secured thereto.~~

[0009] The spring may be permanently secured to the stud in the region of each end of the spring by way of an insert which engages with the stud. The inserts may each engage behind a shoulder which is formed on the central