

Introducing Fish Safe

SMILE LIKE DRAKE Foundation – Rock Fishing Safety System

Fish Safe was designed by Trevor and Nicolle Drake after their son Christopher was swept from an ocean pool in March 2013 and subsequently drowned.

It took rescue and emergency services 5 days to recover his body.

Rock fishing is the most dangerous sport in Australia. Randwick's 29km of coast makes up just 0.11% of the entire Australian coastline, but in 2011-12 it accounted for 27% of the rock fishing deaths in Australia.

In particular, recreational rock fishing equates to 52% of the 27 drowning related fishing fatalities in NSW in 2009-10 which was an increase of 64% from the previous year.

What is Fish Safe?

Fish Safe is a safety anchor system for headlands and rock fishing platforms. When we drive a car we must wear a seat-belt. Fish Safe provides a safety harness for rock fishermen, which like a seat-belt, will keep them safe when doing the dangerous sport they love.

There are two types of anchors that are chemically set into the rock platform. One is a conical fixing, the other is a post. Some platforms may require multiple anchor points.

The harness can be fitted with a buoyancy bladder, wave monitor, GPS or EPIRB (Emergency Position Indicating Radio Beacon) device. It also has a quick release mechanism for emergency detachment.

The safety anchor point or Bollard (fixed upright emergency post) can be fitted with a solar panel, night light, emergency-duress button, wave sensor and alarm as well as safety anchors for up to three fishermen.

How Does It Work?

1. Fasten the Kevlar safety harness securely around your mid-section.
2. Clip the carabineer at the end of the rope to the secured safety anchor-point or Bollard.
3. Move forward on the platform to the desired fishing location then carabineer the rope and rings to the harness at the desired length and safe distance from the edge of the platform.
4. The rope or tether, which is fully adjustable, hangs neatly off the

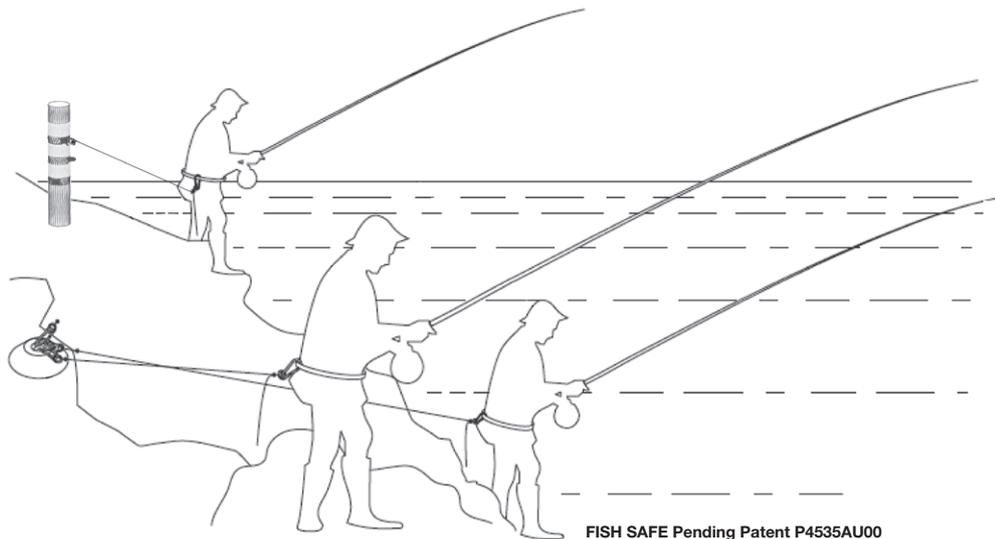
harness which is strapped securely around the midsection of the fisherman's harness.

The fisherman is now essentially "locked on" to the platform; he can run back the length of the rope, plus the length of the rope, to the other side of the safety anchor or Bollard if in fear of being knocked over by a wave.

The advantage here is that the fisherman is on terra firma at all times, he cannot be washed into the ocean.

Our research has shown that out of all the deaths fishing last year 60% were of Asian descent and out of that 60%, 90% could not swim.

We believe the only way to stop people from drowning while fishing is to tether them to the rock face and platforms. Fish



Safe is a very important device moving forward into the future when it comes to fishing safely on rocks and platforms.

Fish Safe safety anchor points and Bollards will also act as safety anchor points for all rescue and emergency services as these wonderful people are also at risk when performing rescues.

The average cost of a rescue is \$65,000-\$100,000. On the east coast of Australia there are thousands of

rescues conducted each year by many organisations.

The SMILE LIKE DRAKE Charity will be using the money raised from the inaugural launch Gala this evening to commence the development, installation and testing of Fish Safe.

Through your generosity and support you are helping the SMILE LIKE DRAKE Foundation to save lives throughout Australia and beyond. Thank you. ■