ANSI/ASSP Z359.3-2019

Safety Requirements for Lanyards and Positioning Lanyards

Part of the Fall Protection Code

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

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American National Standard

Safety Requirements for Lanyards and Positioning Lanyards

Secretariat

American Society of Safety Professionals
520 N. Northwest Highway
Park Ridge, IL 60068

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Foreword

(This Foreword is not a part of American National Standard Z359.3 - 2019.)

This standard, national in scope, was developed by an Accredited Standards Committee functioning under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute, with the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) as secretariat.

It is intended that every employer whose operations use fall protection equipment within the scope and purpose of this standard, will utilize equipment meeting the requirements of this standard.

The need for this standards activity grew out of the continuing development of a series of fall protection-related standards. The focus is to tie the elements of those standards together and provide the tools with which employers may develop the programs that incorporate those elements. The Z359 Fall Protection Code brings together the administrative requirements of those fall protection standards. It should be noted, as in all Z359-series standards, that this standard applies to occupational activities. It is not intended to apply to sports activities such as mountaineering.

Neither the standards committee, nor the secretariat, states that this standard is perfect or in its ultimate form. It is recognized that new developments are to be expected, and that revisions of the standard will be necessary as the state-of-the-art progresses and further experience is gained. It is felt, however, that uniform guidelines for fall protection programs are very much needed and that the standard in its present form provides for the minimum criteria necessary to develop and provide products for the workplace.

The Z359 Committee acknowledges the critical role of design in influencing the use of proper fall protection equipment. Designs which eliminate fall hazards through the proper application of the hierarchy of safety controls are the preferred method for fall protection. Design deficiencies often increase the risk for employees who may be exposed to fall hazards, examples are: (1) lack of rail systems to prevent falls from machines, equipment and structures; (2) failure to provide engineered anchorages where use of personal fall arrest systems are anticipated; (3) no provision for safe access to elevated work areas; (4) installation of machines or equipment at heights, rather than floor/ground level to preclude access to elevated areas; (5) failure to plan for the use of travel restriction or work positioning devices. To that end, this standard is part of a series of standards that also provides guidance for design considerations for new buildings and facilities.

History

This standard was originally released in 2007. Since that time, the Z359 series of standards has expanded and broadened, requiring updates to this standard that were released in 2017. Since the release of the last standard, some improvements to clarity were required. This revision makes those improvements and updates this document to incorporate general document improvements.

Standard Perspective

This standard is written from an equipment design perspective, with the intention that it will primarily be used by equipment manufacturers and test labs in the design and testing of lanyards and positioning lanyards.

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Normative Requirements

This standard uses the single-column format. The normative requirements appear aligned to the left margin. To meet the requirements of this standard, users must conform to these normative requirements. These requirements typically use the verb “shall”.

> *NOTE: The informative or explanatory note in this standard appears indented, in italics, in a reduced font, in an effort to provide a visual signal to the reader that this is an informative note, not normative text, and is not to be considered part of the requirements of this standard; this text is advisory in nature only. The suppliers and users are not required to conform to the informative note. The informative note is presented in this manner in an attempt to enhance readability and to provide explanation or guidance to the sections they follow.*

Figures

Figures provided in the standard are used to show basic concepts of testing, types of products, examples of labels or other information from the standard. These figures are not to scale. They are for educational and informational purposes to explain content within a standard.

Suggestions for Improvements

Suggestions for improvements to this standard are welcome. They should be sent to American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP), 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068 Attention: Z359 Secretariat.

Revisions

The Z359 Committee welcomes proposals for revisions to this standard. Revisions are made to the standard periodically (usually five years from the date of the standard) to incorporate changes that appear necessary or desirable, as demonstrated by experience gained from the application of the standard. Proposals should be as specific as possible, citing the relevant section number(s), the proposed wording and the reason for the proposal. Pertinent documentation would enable the Z359 Committee to process the changes in a timely manner.

Interpretations

Upon a request in writing to the Secretariat, the Z359 Committee will render an interpretation of any requirement of the standard. The request for interpretation should be clear, citing the relevant section number(s) and phrased as a request for a clarification of a specific requirement. Oral interpretations are not provided.

No one but the Z359 Committee (through the Z359 Secretariat) is authorized to provide any interpretation of this standard.

Approval

Neither the Z359 Committee nor the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approves, certifies, rates or endorses any item, construction, proprietary device or activity.

Committee Meetings

Persons wishing to attend a meeting or join the committee should contact the Secretariat for information.

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Standard Approval

This standard was processed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the Z359 Secretariat. Approval of the standard does not necessarily imply (nor is it required) that all committee members voted for its approval. At the time this standard was approved, the Z359 Committee had the following members:

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