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Personal fall protection equipment – Anchor systems – Specification for provider competence



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Summary of pages

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Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 30 November 2024. It was prepared by Technical Committee PH/5, *Personal Fall Protection*. A list of organizations represented on this committee can be obtained on request to the committee manager.

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Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the *Shorter Oxford English Dictionary* is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

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Section 1 General

0 Introduction

0.1 General

The duty holder has the right to expect that the workplace is designed, built, and maintained in a way that is safe. Those needing to access and maintain parts of the workplace need to have confidence and trust in the providers responsible for manufacturing, fabricating, specifying, designing, installing, and inspecting personal fall protection systems (PFPS), with safety a priority. Competence of all who provide services and products throughout the life of the duty holder's workplace is key to achieving this outcome.

All stages of manufacture, specification, design, installation and inspection should be properly planned and carried out.

This British Standard formulates minimum benchmarking for duty holders and other interested parties to establish the capability and competence of providers manufacturing, fabricating, specifying, designing, installing, inspecting, and training on PFPS.

NOTE There should be competency throughout the supply chain. Attention is drawn to the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 [1], the Work at Height Regulations 2005 [2], the Construction (Design & Management) Regulations 2015 [3] regarding the duty holder's obligation to maintain safety.

0.2 Competence

A competent provider is one with suitable and sufficient skills, knowledge and experience necessary to fulfil a defined role, function or activity and carry out specified tasks.

NOTE 1 See 5.2 regarding competence.

Competence derives principally from an accumulation of learning and experience, including both formal and informal activities, which assists the development of skills, such as education and training combined with practical experience. Gaining practical experience is often best undertaken under supervision until such time as the individual is proven competent to work independently.

The continuing growth of competence requires education and training as part of a commitment to undertaking and recording continuing professional development (CPD), but also mentoring and time for reflection. Underpinning knowledge is an essential building block of skill development which can be gained through learning, leading to competence.

Competence can become out of date over time and requires positive action to maintain. This includes building on and refreshing skills, knowledge and understanding, identifying specific requirements relevant to work being undertaken and being aware of changes in context, such as regulation or technology.

NOTE 2 Infrequently used skills are particularly prone to diminishing competencies, such as rescue.

Providers should not act beyond the limits of their competence to avoid exposing themselves and potentially other people to risk. This includes risk of death or injury, litigation, prosecution, and breach of contract (amongst others).

Collectively, skills, knowledge and experience equip a provider with the means to fulfil a function and perform an activity or task, but also requires the appropriate behaviours (see 0.3).

0.3 Behaviour and ethics

The role of those involved in fall protection (i.e. providers) concerns behaviour(s) as much as competence. Instilling the right behaviours in the fall protection sector's workforce is imperative to prevent fixation with cost and time compromising quality and safety. The approach taken in [BS 8670](#), which is reflected in this British Standard, is to embed behaviours in the functions, activities and tasks involved in managing the provision of PFPS. Rather than behaviours appearing detached from the very act of work, they are an intrinsic part of it.

There should be a sense of individual responsibility, integrity, respect for diversity and inclusion, and accountability as part of a strong, effective safety culture. The specific competencies embed the appropriate behaviours. Ethics, or ethical practices, are a key trait of professional behaviour. The expectation is that fall protection providers adhere at all times to these moral duties.

NOTE The British Safety Industry Federation (BSIF) and other industry bodies provide a code of conduct for members [4].

1 Scope

This British Standard specifies provider competencies in manufacturing, fabricating, specifying, designing, installing, maintaining, inspecting and training on PFPS in order to verify competence in carrying out specific roles.

NOTE 1 A person might hold more than one role, e.g. system designer and installer.

NOTE 2 Relevant standards for the manufacture of anchor systems include [BS EN 795](#), [PD CEN/TS 16415](#), [BS EN 353-1](#), [BS EN 353-2](#), [BS EN 17235](#), [BS EN 50308](#) and [BS 8610](#).

NOTE 3 Recommendations and guidance for the selection, use and maintenance of PFPS and equipment for use in the workplace is given in [BS 8437](#); recommendations and guidance on the use of rope access methods for industrial purposes are given in [BS 7985](#).

NOTE 4 Relevant standards for the manufacture of personal fall protection equipment (PFPE) which are specified and sometimes supplied as part of a PFPS include [BS EN 353-1](#), [BS EN 353-2](#), [BS EN 354](#), [BS EN 355](#), [BS EN 358](#), [BS EN 360](#), [BS EN 361](#), [BS EN 362](#), [BS EN 795](#).

NOTE 5 Relevant standards, guidance, etc. for the design, installation and inspection of PFPS include [BS 7883](#), Industrial Rope Access Trade Association (IRATA) ICoP [5], including relevant annexes, such as Annex F.

This British Standard is intended for use by the duty holder and is relevant to providers involved with PFPS, including:

- a) manufacturers and fabricators;
- b) system designers;
- c) installers;
- d) inspectors;
- e) trainers; and
- f) other interested parties, e.g. architects and structural engineers, and those responsible for the design of safe access and egress on buildings and structures.

NOTE 6 As other systems, e.g. fixed ladders, edge protection systems (fixed or counterweighted), gantries, etc. might be provided in conjunction with PFPS to form safe access strategies, this British Standard is also relevant to providers in other similar industry sectors. Relevant standards for the manufacture of fixed ladders, edge protection systems, gantries, etc. include [BS 4211](#), [BS 13700](#), [BS EN 13374](#), [BS EN ISO 14122-1](#), [BS EN ISO 14122-2](#), [BS EN ISO 14122-3](#), [BS EN ISO 14122-4](#).

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes provisions, or limits the application, of this document¹⁾. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

[BS 7883:2019](#), *Personal fall protection equipment – Anchor systems – System design, installation, and inspection – Code of practice*²⁾

[BS 8437:2022](#), *Code of practice for selection, use and maintenance of personal fall protection systems and equipment for use in the workplace*³⁾

[BS 8454:2006](#), *Code of practice for the delivery of training and education for work at height and rescue*⁴⁾

[BS EN 1090](#) (all parts), *Execution of steel structures and aluminium structures*

[BS EN ISO 19011](#), *Guidelines for auditing management systems*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following definitions apply.

3.1 anchor system

system incorporating an anchor device when connected to the base material by structural anchors, or installed on the structure without the need for structural anchors

NOTE 1 A structural anchor is a combination of one or more permanent fixing elements, not intended to be removed, used to connect an anchor device to the base material.

NOTE 2 An anchor device installed on the structure could include wire strop around a beam, tripod on concrete floor or a deadweight anchor on a flat roof.

3.2 competent person

designated person suitably trained or qualified by knowledge and practical experience to enable the required task or tasks to be carried out properly

NOTE Part of the competent person's role is to identify hazards and control risks.

[SOURCE: [BS 8437:2022](#), 3.10; modified: Note added]

3.3 contractor

provider who carries out work on behalf of the duty holder and who directly employs or engages construction workers or manages construction work

NOTE Contractors include sub-contractors and any individual self-employed worker or business that carries out, manages or controls construction work.

3.4 duty holder

person or organization with the responsibility for the overall standard and quality of the PFPS

NOTE The duty holder can also be the owner or client.

[SOURCE: [BS 7883:2019](#), 3.13; modified: “anchor system” changed to “PFPS”]

¹⁾ Documents that are referred to solely in an informative manner are listed in the Bibliography.

²⁾ This document also gives informative references to [BS 7883:2019](#).

³⁾ This document also gives informative references to [BS 8437:2022](#).

⁴⁾ This document also gives informative references to [BS 8454](#).

3.5 examination scheme for inspection

output documentation drawn up by the system designer for use by those responsible for the inspection and maintenance of PFPS

3.6 fabricator

provider carrying out fabrication of element(s) of a PFPS to a design and specification provided by a competent designer

NOTE For the purposes of this British Standard, if the fabricator designs and fabricates their own products, they become the manufacturer.

3.7 inspector

provider carrying out the inspection, including issuing inspection reports in accordance with the examination scheme for inspection

NOTE 1 An inspector might need to be trained by the manufacturer or their authorized representative on specific PFPE, anchor systems or other equipment, e.g. due to its complexity or innovation, or where safety critical knowledge is needed in the dismantling, reassembly, or assessment of the PFPE, anchor systems or other equipment, and might need to have that training updated due to modifications and upgrades.

NOTE 2 An inspector could be competent to carry out inspections on only one particular model of PFPE, anchor system or other equipment or could be competent to inspect several models.

NOTE 3 An inspector should be sufficiently independent and impartial to allow objective decisions to be made. This does not mean that the inspector is necessarily employed from an external company.

NOTE 4 See also BS 7883 for further guidance and recommendations.

3.8 installer

provider responsible for installing, maintaining and/or repairing the anchor system in accordance with the system designer's specification and information supplied by the manufacturer

NOTE 1 In cases where an installer decides which products to use and where to install them, they are also, for those aspects of the process, the system designer.

NOTE 2 Where the installer makes changes to any element, method or parameters of the installation, without documented approval (i.e. in the system technical file) from the manufacturer and/or system designer, the installer becomes the manufacturer (see Clause 8) and system designer (see Clause 10) of the anchor system.

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.27; modified: definition amended, Note 2 added]

3.9 manufacturer

provider responsible for designing and manufacturing an anchor system or a component of an anchor system, including obtaining any certification necessary, with a view to placing it on the market on their own behalf

NOTE 1 To verify performance, reliability and safety, the manufacturer is responsible for the type testing, and where necessary, structural calculations, of their anchor systems on specified base materials, specified structural anchors and with specified structural limitations (e.g. minimum edge distance, minimum thickness of the base material, minimum spacing of structural anchors).

NOTE 2 The manufacturer has an obligation to ensure that products intended to be placed on the market conform to relevant standards.

NOTE 3 The manufacturer can use finished products, ready-made elements or subcontract these tasks. The manufacturer maintains overall control and should have the necessary competence to take responsibility for the product.

NOTE 4 The manufacturer can elect not to supply specified ancillary elements supplied by third parties as part of the original certification, e.g. type and specification of resin.

NOTE 5 Where element(s) (e.g. structural anchors, washers, nuts) are manufactured by someone other than the manufacturer of the anchor system, this is clarified, e.g. "third-party manufacturer".

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.30; modified: definition amended, Note 1 and Note 2 amended]

3.10 operations and maintenance (O&M) manual

output documentation for those using, inspecting and maintaining a PFPS which forms part of the system technical file

NOTE Documentation includes, but is not limited to, details on methods of access and egress, pre-use inspections, rescue and recovery plan, layout drawings, and maintenance requirements.

3.11 personal fall protection equipment (PFPE)

components intended to protect the user against falls from height, including a body-holding device and an attachment system

NOTE 1 A body-holding device might be, for example, a full body harness, sit harness, rescue harness, rescue loop.

NOTE 2 PFPE forms part of the overall personal protective equipment (PPE) that might be required to be worn by the user.

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.37]

3.12 personal fall protection system (PFPS)

PFPE and an anchor system

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.38]

3.13 provider

organization, subcontractor, or individual that fulfils a function within the project

NOTE A provider might include the manufacturer and/or fabricator, system designer, installer, inspector, contractor, trainer.

3.14 suitably qualified person

competent person capable of and responsible for assessing whether the specific requirements are met

NOTE 1 An assessment might include calculations.

NOTE 2 An example of a suitably qualified person could be a chartered structural engineer (see [Clause 11](#)).

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.60; modified: Note 2 amended, Note 3 deleted]

3.15 system design

output documentation resulting from the design process which specifies the anchor system(s) to be installed, how and where they are to be installed, and any criteria necessary for their safe access and use

NOTE The system design also specifies the appropriate PFPE required for safe use of the anchor system.

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.62; modified: "safe" inserted before "use"]

3.16 system designer

person with overall responsibility for the design of the PFPS (including the anchor system and PFPE), including certification and handover documentation

[SOURCE: BS 7883:2019, 3.61]

3.17 system technical file

output documentation supplied to the duty holder on completion of the installation by the system designer, to be retained for future reference for the life of the PFPS installed, including anchor system(s) and PFPE

NOTE The system technical file contains information provided by the system designer, installer and inspector.

[SOURCE: [BS 7883:2019](#), 3.63]

3.18 trainer

representative of the training provider who delivers the course content to the trainees

NOTE 1 There are a number of types of training available from providers, e.g. work at height, rescue, product, design, installation, inspection, maintenance and repair.

NOTE 2 See [12.12](#) regarding site-specific familiarization which, for the purposes of this British Standard, is not considered as training.

[SOURCE: [BS 8454:2006](#), 2.4.1; modified: Note 1 and 2 inserted]

3.19 user

competent person who uses the PFPS for work tasks, inspections or maintenance

NOTE A user might include the rescuer, where relevant, e.g. accompanied descent.

[SOURCE: [BS 7883:2019](#), 3.65; modified: Note amended]

Section 2 Duty holder

4 Duty holder

4.1 The duty holder shall:

- a) verify, through written evidence, that the requirements of the relevant section(s) of this British Standard are met, including:
 - 1) system designers, inspectors, installers and users have appropriate competencies and safe systems of work for the system design, installation, inspection and use of the PFPS, (e.g. professional qualifications, training qualifications, manufacturer approvals); and
 - 2) inspectors, installers and users have appropriate competencies and appropriate provision for rescue, recovery or evacuation during installation, inspection and use of the PFPS;

NOTE 1 Where it is not possible to verify that the requirements for specific providers are met, or providers have not met the requirements, specialist advice should be sought by the duty holder.

- b) have a documented process to verify providers (including individuals and subcontractors), under their control, are competent to carry out their duties and do not act beyond the limits of their competence;
- c) provide relevant information to the system designer, as required during the system design (see [BS 7883](#));
- d) provide and confirm clear lines of contractual responsibility;

NOTE 2 For example, the duty holder could request confirmation from system designers, inspectors, installers and users that there is suitable and sufficient insurance covering the scope of works being undertaken on site.

- e) have an overarching emergency rescue, recovery and evacuation plan which covers the use of PFPS installed on site;

NOTE 3 Attention is drawn to the Work at Height Regulations 2005 [2], Regulation 4, regarding planning for emergencies and rescue.

NOTE 4 Where appropriate, the emergency rescue, recovery and evacuation plan should be practised at suitable intervals.

- f) provide information to relevant parties for the safe access to and use of PFPS, e.g. via a roof induction, the overarching emergency rescue, recovery and plan [see e)], radio frequency/non-ionizing radiation, fragile surfaces, environmental conditions, hazardous materials, asbestos, confined spaces;
- g) make the system technical file readily accessible (e.g. kept on site) and made available to installers, inspectors and users and transferred to future duty holders; and
- h) verify that users are competent to use the PFPS (see [Annex A](#)).

4.2 Where the duty holder makes a safety-critical decision regarding design and/or specification, procurement, installation and/or inspection of PFPS, this shall be documented. Where such decisions are taken, the duty holder shall automatically be responsible for those aspects of the design and/or any implications arising thereof.

NOTE 1 This would include changes made as part of a tendering process, e.g. commercial and technical variations from original specification.

NOTE 2 See [Clause 10](#) regarding system designer role-specific requirements.

Section 3 Provider – General requirements

COMMENTARY ON SECTION 3

The requirements of Section 3 apply to all providers.

5 General

5.1 Provider decision making and project review

- 5.1.1** Where the provider makes a safety-critical decision regarding design and/or specification, procurement, installation and/or inspection of PFPS, this shall be documented. Where such decisions are taken, the provider shall automatically be responsible for those aspects of the design and/or any implications arising thereof.

NOTE 1 This would include changes made as part of a tendering process and value engineering.

NOTE 2 See 3.13 for the definition of provider.

NOTE 3 See Clause 10 regarding system designer role-specific requirements.

- 5.1.2** The provider shall conduct a project review, including the scope of work of other providers, before committing to supply products and services. The provider shall confirm they have the competence and resources to provide a safe solution, as identified within the system design risk assessment.

NOTE 1 A project review could include, e.g. types of contracts, insurances, liquidated damages, liabilities transferred from the main contract, contract timescales, collateral warranties.

NOTE 2 For further guidance regarding system design risk assessment, see BS 7883:2019, 4.4.

5.2 Competence

COMMENTARY ON 5.2

Attention is drawn to the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 [1], Section 7 and Section 37 with regard to individual and corporate responsibilities and liabilities.

Understanding the limits of an individual's competence is crucial if they are not to act beyond their competence and, if additional resources are necessary, to provide the skills, knowledge, expertise and behaviours required for a particular purpose. Risks include death or injury, litigation, prosecution and breach of contract (amongst others). Aside from the obvious risks and consequences of acting beyond the limit of an individual's competence, including the capacity to fulfil the role, there is the likelihood that doing so would send the message that such behaviour is tolerated or even acceptable in the "interest of getting the job done". Providers should not act beyond the limits of their competence to avoid exposing themselves and potentially other people to a wide range of risks.

See 0.2 and 0.3 with regard to competence, behaviour and ethics.

See 3.2 for a definition of competent person. Competence should be combined with appropriate behaviours.

See Annex B with regard to degree and range of provider competencies.

- 5.2.1** Providers shall have a documented process to verify that individuals, subcontractors and other providers under their control are competent to carry out their duties and that they do not act beyond the limits of their competence.

5.2.2 Providers shall appoint assessors to undertake assessments of individuals' competence against a range of criteria, as specified:

- a) by the provider; or
- b) against industry good practice; or
- c) nationally recognized schemes.

NOTE Assessors might be appointed internally or be an external third party.

5.2.3 Assessors shall possess and be able to provide evidence of competence in the specific tasks and in the performance of assessing duties.

5.2.4 Providers and individuals shall maintain competence by keeping their knowledge and skills up to date, e.g. refresher training, CPD, practicing skills. Providers and individuals shall keep records of training and work undertaken (see [Annex B](#)).

NOTE Competence can diminish over time, particularly where specific skills are used infrequently, e.g. rescue skills.

5.2.5 Providers shall seek advice from a competent provider if they do not have in-house access to competent resources to carry out their work.

5.2.6 Individuals shall be assessed to verify they have achieved the required levels of competence.

NOTE Assessment(s) of the individual's competence might include occupational, in-house and third-party tests.

5.2.7 Providers shall have a document control system to keep, maintain and update a library of relevant standards and make those standards available to those who require access.

NOTE Providers might also need to keep and maintain records of other relevant documents, e.g. industry guidance, codes of practice, manufacturers' instructions, etc.

5.2.8 Providers shall carry out work in accordance with current standards and other relevant documents, e.g. industry guidance, codes of practice.

5.3 Supervision

5.3.1 Where individuals are not yet fully competent in the task/role to be undertaken, they shall work under the control of a competent supervisor.

NOTE This is particularly important where the work involves safety critical activities.

5.3.2 The supervisor shall possess and be able to demonstrate competence in the specific tasks being undertaken, and in performing the duties of a supervisor.

5.4 Mentoring

The mentor shall possess and be able to demonstrate competence in the specific tasks being undertaken, and in performing the duties of a mentor.

NOTE 1 Mentoring includes building on and refreshing skills, knowledge and understanding, identifying specific requirements relevant to work being undertaken and keeping abreast of relevant changes, e.g. regulation, standards, industry guidance or good practice, technology.

NOTE 2 Mentoring could be provided by, for example, line managers, external specialists, technical authorities, etc.

5.5 Process audit – provider preparation

NOTE See [Clause 15](#) regarding the audit process.

The provider shall make available to the auditor evidence that the process of design, installation or inspection of the PFPS has been carried out in accordance with relevant standards. This evidence shall include, but not be limited to, records of:

- a) competence, including details of training, CPD;
- b) materials purchase;
- c) manufacturer authorization;
- d) certificates of calibration;
- e) special tools required to carry out the installation and inspection;
- f) internal and/or external third-party design checks;
- g) base material (substrate/structure) design verification;
- h) conditions of warranty [e.g. products, component parts, materials, base material (such as roofing system) environmental condition, weatherproofing, and installation design and process]; and
- i) conformity to [BS 7883](#) and other relevant standards.

5.6 Internal audits

- 5.6.1** Providers shall carry out internal audits at least every 12 months by an auditor authorized by the provider. The outcomes of such audits shall be made available to the external auditor at each three-yearly external audit (see [Clause 15](#)).

NOTE Internal audits are carried out to identify nonconformities to be resolved prior to appointing an external auditor. Conformity to the relevant section(s) of this British Standard cannot be claimed by solely carrying out an internal audit.

- 5.6.2** Where annual internal audits have identified nonconformity, these shall be resolved by the provider within appropriate timescales or as agreed with the external auditor.
- 5.6.3** If the provider has a change of key personnel, the provider shall carry out a change validation to prove that the changes do not have a negative impact on processes and competence. The change validation shall be documented and made available to the external auditor at the next audit.

6 Management system

- 6.1** The provider shall prepare and maintain a documented management system and put in place a documented procedure for implementation and auditing of this system.

- 6.2** The management system shall include, as a minimum, procedures for the following:

- a) maintenance of training and competence records;
- b) maintaining an up-to-date list of reference documents;

NOTE 1 Reference documents include British and European Standards, manufacturers' technical information, installation information, recalls, legislation.

- c) supply chain assessment on safety critical elements and maintaining up-to-date information on those suppliers, which might also include training organizations;
- d) control of relevant procedures for, e.g. design, installation, inspection and calibration;

NOTE 2 For further information, see [BS 7883](#).

- e) dissemination, receipt of and acting upon information, including:
 - 1) product details, including safety alerts and recalls;
 - 2) legislation, guidance and standards;
 - 3) agreed good practice;
 - 4) published industry guidance;
 - 5) incidents, such as near misses, injuries or accidents; and
 - 6) changes to equipment and/or products and/or processes;
- f) induction, mentoring and supervision of employees;
- g) practical activities, e.g. at height and dealing with emergencies, including medical emergencies and rescue;
- h) inspection, care and maintenance of apparatus and equipment;
NOTE This also applies to training facilities.
- i) monitoring of workforce, e.g. competence to work at height, mental and physical wellbeing;
- j) workforce occupational health surveillance and monitoring, e.g. hand and arm vibration (HAV), respiratory, hearing, musculoskeletal, drug and alcohol;
- k) undertaking site and task-specific risk assessments (including design), dynamic risk assessments and implementing risk control measures;
- l) implementing safe systems of work, e.g. site and task-specific method statements, lone working;
- m) verifying that first aid equipment and first aider(s) are available;
- n) maintenance and destruction of records; and
- o) dealing with complaints and appeals in accordance with relevant codes of conduct.

6.3 Documentation relating to the management system shall be subject to version control. Every document shall be marked with the following:

- a) a revision number;
- b) an issue date; and
- c) a unique document reference.

6.4 The documentation referenced in the management system shall be stored centrally and include a procedure to verify that only current documents are in use.

6.5 Documentation relating to the manufacture, installation and inspection, including revisions, shall be traceable to each project.

NOTE Traceability includes, for example, reference to a product or material, batch/serial numbers, calibration and installation records (such as sign-off sheets).

6.6 Roles and responsibilities shall be documented, e.g. in an organizational chart. Roles and responsibilities might change, e.g. through the life of a project or contract, and therefore records of changes shall be documented, including reasons why.

Section 4 Provider – Role-specific requirements

7 Trainer

7.1 General

- 7.1.1** The trainer shall document and make available to providers, where requested, evidence of competence, including specific skills and knowledge at the required training level, such as:
- a) experience of carrying out specific product installations and inspections;
 - b) relevant safety training and ability to undertake risk assessments;
 - c) detailed knowledge of the relevant parts of The Work at Height Regulations 2005 [2];
 - d) detailed knowledge of relevant British and European Standards;
 - e) training, if available, e.g. for the industry; equipment; application; environment; location concerned;
 - f) experience of equipment on which they are to provide training;
 - g) ability to supervise, and maintain the safety of trainees;
 - h) ability to explain course content in a clear and practical way to trainees; and
 - i) where applicable, ability to carry out emergency procedures which might be necessary.

NOTE For new or revised courses, the training provider might need to make special provision until it is clear that the trainers are competent in the delivery of the course. This provision might include running pilot courses to obtain feedback on the course material, additional supervision of trainers or obtaining product information and familiarization from a product supplier.

- 7.1.2** The trainer shall be able to demonstrate that they are competent to deliver the training, e.g. by having undergone a training/education qualification (see [B.3](#) for examples of relevant training qualifications).
- 7.1.3** The trainer shall provide documented evidence that they are undertaking CPD and up-to-date training, covering:
- a) innovation, product changes, installation and inspection requirements, product recalls, British and European Standards, etc. in relevant industry sectors;
 - b) product and equipment training; and
 - c) practical skills, e.g. work at height, rescue, installation, testing.

7.2 Assessment and certification of trainees on completion of the course

- 7.2.1** An assessment shall be carried out by the trainer to determine whether each trainee has met the practical and theoretical assessment criteria and is competent to carry out the techniques covered by the course.
- 7.2.2** Following successful completion of the course and a successful final assessment, the training provider shall issue a certificate, or other documentary evidence, to each trainee. The certificate, or other documentary evidence, shall include the information set out in [7.3](#).

7.3 Minimum information to be given on the training certificate, or other documentary evidence, issued for the course

The following details shall be provided on the training certificate, or other documentary evidence, issued for the course, which shall be specific to the training and/or education given:

- a) key syllabus items and/or tasks on which the trainee has been assessed and has been shown to have theoretical and practical competence;
- b) course duration;
- c) unique reference number;
- d) training organization;
- e) trainer's name;
- f) trainee's name;
- g) trainee's employer, where applicable;
- h) equipment and/or product on which training has been given;
- i) details of training venue or location;
- j) date of issue; and
- k) length of time for which the certificate, or other documentary evidence, is valid.

7.4 Quality assurance of training assessments

7.4.1 The training provider shall have an internal quality assurance process, indicating how assessment decisions are moderated, e.g. sampling records and internal quality assurer feedback.

7.4.2 Internal quality assurance shall focus on the safety, fairness, validity, authenticity, sufficiency, relevance, reliability and consistency of assessment decisions, and encompass the range of assessment methods being used within the qualification routes.

NOTE This might include monitoring assessors by means of carrying out observations and sampling of assessment decisions/assessment documentation.

7.5 Training provider records

7.5.1 Training providers shall keep records of the following:

- a) for every course delivered, training course content, lesson plan at the time of delivery, including learning hours;
- b) trainee information, as follows:
 - 1) where applicable, for practical training only, a statement of fitness for the tasks to be undertaken;
 - 2) attendance record;
 - 3) assessment criteria and results of practical skills;
 - 4) assessment criteria and results of theoretical knowledge;
 - 5) candidate feedback; and
 - 6) training certificates (see 7.3); and
- c) trainer information (see 7.1), including outcome of pre-employment training performance assessment.

- 7.5.2** Training providers shall keep records of training apparatus and training equipment, which include:
- a) records of inspection, examination, calibration, maintenance and repair;
 - b) certificates of conformity (where relevant);
 - c) details of equipment markings to enable each item of equipment to be traceable to the relevant records; and
 - d) manufacturers' user instructions or manuals.

NOTE The Work at Height Regulations 2005 [2] require records to be kept of the current inspection status of equipment used for work at height.

- 7.5.3** Training providers shall keep records of the risk assessments (e.g. for the training/assessment activity, use of tools, training facility) carried out and of the measures taken to minimize risks.

NOTE 1 Attention is drawn to the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 [6] with regard to risk assessments.

NOTE 2 Risk assessments should include emergency planning and rescue of trainees in training scenarios based on the venue and the type of activity.

8 Manufacturer and/or fabricator

- 8.1** The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall demonstrate competence in the designing, testing, manufacturing and/or fabricating anchor systems.

NOTE An example of competencies for design might be an engineering degree (or equivalent) and post-graduate industry experience. Design also includes carrying out structural analysis and testing, where applicable.

- 8.2** The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall provide verifiable information to other providers to enable them to carry out their work in accordance with the manufacturer's and/or fabricator's information, specification, approval, certification and [BS 7883](#).

- 8.3** The manufacturer and/or fabricator, shall, where required, provide instruction specifying that the following activities only be conducted by trained and authorized providers:

- a) installations; and/or
- b) inspections; and/or
- c) repairs.

NOTE [BS EN 365](#) provides further information for use, maintenance, periodic examination (inspection), repair and marking for anchor devices.

- 8.4** The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall design and/or test PFPS in accordance with relevant product standards and, where relevant, appropriate structural design standards and codes of practice.

NOTE Examples of relevant standards include [BS EN 795](#), [PD CEN/TS 16415](#), [BS EN 353-1](#), [BS EN 353-2](#), [BS 8610](#) and [BS EN 17235](#).

- 8.5** Where safety critical products are welded, these parts shall be manufactured and/or fabricated in accordance with [BS EN 1090](#) (all parts).

8.6 The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall produce technical documentation which:

- a) indicates which product standards the anchor system and/or components conform to (e.g. declaration of conformity, third-party test verification, third party certification); and
- b) includes, as a minimum:
 - 1) a complete description of the anchor system and its intended use;
 - 2) an assessment of the risks against which the anchor system is intended to protect;
 - 3) a list of safety requirements applicable to the anchor system;
 - 4) design and manufacturing drawings of the anchor system and of its components and sub-assemblies;
 - 5) descriptions and explanations necessary for the understanding of the drawings in 4) and the operation of the anchor system;
 - 6) references of the standards that have been applied for the design and manufacture of the anchor system. In the event of partial application of standards, the documentation shall specify the parts which have been applied;
 - 7) where standards have not been applied or have been only partially applied, descriptions of the other technical specifications that have been applied in order to meet applicable health and safety requirements;
 - 8) results of the design calculations, inspections and examinations carried out to verify the conformity of the anchor system to applicable health and safety requirements;
 - 9) confirmation of the applied and resolved forces on the particular base material(s) on which those products are approved (see [BS 7883:2019, 5.2](#)) to allow the system designer to confirm the system design is in accordance with manufacturer(s) approvals and certification;
 - 10) reports on the tests carried out to verify the conformity of the anchor system to applicable health and safety requirements;
 - 11) a description of the means used by the manufacturer during the production of the anchor system to confirm the conformity of the anchor system to the design specifications;
 - 12) a copy of the manufacturer's instructions for use, in accordance with the requirements of the product standard(s);
 - 13) a copy of the manufacturer's instructions for installation;
 - 14) a copy of the manufacturer's instructions for maintenance and inspection; and
 - 15) details of manufacturer's conditions of warranty.

8.7 The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall offer specific training for the design, installation, inspection and maintenance of PFPS.

8.8 The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall make available (e.g. website) copies of all product recalls, safety-related notices, requests for inspection, in a readily accessible location.

- 8.9** The manufacturer and/or fabricator shall keep a library of technical details, such as the following, which can be made available to industry professionals, e.g. system designers, structural engineers:
- a) structural calculations;
 - b) specific design details of their products (such as base plate size, material thickness, hole centres, post heights);
 - c) compatibility and strength in approved base materials;
 - d) drawings;
 - e) approved structural fixings; and
 - f) directions of loads.
-

9 Contractor

COMMENTARY ON CLAUSE 9

Attention is drawn to the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 [3] and the definitions of a contractor.

- 9.1** The contractor shall specify the use of standards as part of agreeing the work and then obtain documentation that demonstrates the provider is implementing and conforming to relevant requirements and recommendations given in British and European Standards, e.g. [BS 7883](#), [BS 8437](#), [BS 8610](#), [BS EN 795](#), [PD CEN/TS 16415](#), [BS EN 353-1](#), [BS EN 353-2](#), [BS EN 17235](#).
- 9.2** The contractor shall evidence they have the skills, knowledge, experience and, where relevant, the organizational capability to carry out the work safely and without risk to health.

NOTE Contractors and the workers under their control are most at risk of injury and ill health from construction work. Contractors, therefore, have an important role in planning, managing and monitoring their work so that risks are controlled.

10 System designer

The system designer shall be competent to produce the system design and specification for the PFPS, including, work task, location, user competencies and:

NOTE 1 The design of a PFPS includes designing for installation, use, rescue, inspection and future maintenance or repair.

- a) specify the appropriate PFPE for use on the anchor system(s);
- b) confirm the scope and depth of specification, general design and detail design required for each of the project stages for which they are the nominated system designer;
- c) review the work of previous system designers on a project so that preceding work is consistent with the project brief and other requirements, or able to identify and implement required changes;
- d) demonstrate an understanding of the requirements and application of relevant legislation, in particular the hierarchy of control and the principle of reasonable practicability, e.g. to provide appropriate advice and designs;

NOTE 2 Attention is drawn to the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 [1], the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 [3], the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER) [7] and the Work at Height Regulations 2005 (as amended) [2].

- e) demonstrate an understanding of the requirements and application of relevant British and European standards, and good practice guidance to produce a conformant design, installation and inspection;

- f) be suitably qualified, e.g. have a suitable construction or engineering qualification, or equivalent;

NOTE 3 An example of a suitable qualification would be The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) Level 5, i.e. HND, NVQ Level 5, Vocational Qualifications Level 5.

- g) demonstrate an understanding of construction techniques and structural engineering concepts and practices;
- h) demonstrate an understanding of the principles of the structural design of the proposed installation and factors that might significantly affect its structural performance, in particular the performance of base materials, structural anchors and fabricated elements;
- i) be able to identify all load-bearing elements and obtain site- and location-specific structural verification for the design from verifiable type-testing performance and certification, e.g. from test laboratories, manufacturer's technical information, manufacturer's design software;

NOTE 4 Concrete and concrete fixings have differing structural qualities dependant on the depth, grade, strength, reinforcement and installation position.

- j) demonstrate an understanding of the suitability, requirements and limitations of each type of PFPS to be used for the specific work tasks and locations being accessed, to ensure appropriate specification and general arrangement;

NOTE 5 The level of knowledge demonstrated by the system designer should be appropriate to the stage of design. At concept stage, the exact details of the design might not be fully developed or available, but as the design develops, the detail might require greater specialist competencies.

- k) have appropriate training and/or information from the manufacturer of the PFPS;
- l) verify that each appointed provider (e.g. manufacturer/fabricator, supplier, installer, inspector) has a suitable quality management system in place;

NOTE 6 BS EN ISO 9001 is an example of a management system standard.

- m) demonstrate an understanding of how the PFPS performs under foreseeable load cases, e.g. vector forces from rope access rigging, turning moments (such as from posts, davit arms), line tension on extremity anchors of horizontal flexible anchor lines, adequate free space for fall arrest systems, snow loads, wind loads;

NOTE 7 The system designer might need to refer to relevant standards and technical information, e.g. BS 7883, manufacturer's technical data, and/or manufacturer's performance information.

- n) utilize specialist designers who can demonstrate competence in the specific areas of work, where appropriate, e.g. for structural engineering design or verification; and

NOTE 8 The specification of the type of PFPE to be used should take into account a number of factors, e.g. the work environment, tasks being undertaken, performance characteristics of the anchor system, application type (such as restraint, fall arrest, rope access), length and type of lanyard, mass of the user.

NOTE 9 The role of nominated system designer could transfer from one individual to another, as a project progresses, depending on the complexity or size of the project. An example of this arrangement could be:

- a) Client Briefing and Conceptual Design (RIBA stages 1 and 2) – the system designer might be from the planning architecture team, or an access consultant;
- b) Spatial and Technical Design (RIBA stages 3 and 4) – the system designer might be from the working architecture team, or an access consultant; and
- c) Construction, Handover and Management, including inspection, maintenance and servicing (RIBA stages 5, 6 and 7) – the system designer might be from the installation team, or an access consultant.

NOTE 10 Each system designer assumes responsibility for all work on a project by any previous system designer and changes made during the design process.

- o) hand over a copy of the system technical file (including the O&M manual and examination scheme for inspection) to the duty holder once the PFPS has been commissioned.

11 Structural engineer

- 11.1** Structural verifications, designs and calculations shall be carried out by a suitably qualified person, e.g. chartered structural engineer, member of a professional engineering body, person with suitable construction or engineering degree, or equivalent.

NOTE 1 An example of equivalent qualification would be The Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation (Ofqual) Level 7, i.e. Fellowships, NVQ Level 7, Vocational Qualifications Level 7.

NOTE 2 Examples of professional engineering memberships include ICE, IStructE, IET, IMechE.

- 11.2** The person carrying out the structural verifications, designs and calculations shall have sufficient knowledge of the performance of PFPS, the service loads and the design loads, as provided by the manufacturer and/or system designer.
- 11.3** All engineering designs, calculations and drawings shall, as appropriate, take into account applied loads, type and suitability of the base material, structural anchors and installed elements.

NOTE Localized structural collapse could occur from imposed loads as a result of a fall onto a PFPS if the base material does not have sufficient integrity.

- 11.4** Design calculations shall be provided in accordance with applicable structural design codes and engineering practice.

NOTE 1 Third-party checks are standard engineering practice for critical infrastructure, e.g. nuclear, rail.

NOTE 2 Examples of applicable design codes include:

- a) Eurocode 2, [BS EN 1992-1-1:2023](#) for reinforced concrete;
- b) Eurocode 3, relevant parts of [BS EN 1993-1-2:2024](#) for steelwork;
- c) Eurocode 5, [BS EN 1995-1-1](#) for timber; and
- d) Eurocode 6, [BS 5628-1](#), [BS 5628-2](#) and [BS 5628-3](#) (see *NOTE 3*) for masonry.

NOTE 3 Although some of the British Standards in Note 2 are withdrawn, it is accepted practice to assess existing buildings to the codes to which they were originally designed.

12 Installer

- 12.1** The installer shall be able to demonstrate competence to carry out the installation or to repair a PFPS conforming to, e.g. [BS 7883](#), [BS 8437](#), the system design (including relevant construction drawings) and manufacturers' installation instructions.
- 12.2** A minimum of one member of the team carrying out the installation shall be trained and authorized, where required, by the manufacturer(s) of the anchor device (see [8.3](#) and [8.7](#)).
- 12.3** Changes to any aspect of the system design shall only be carried out with prior approval from the nominated system designer (see [Clause 10](#)). Approved changes shall be documented by the system designer in the system technical file, even if the system designer and installer are engaged by the same organization.

NOTE System design changes include changes to base material, product, product specification, fixing method, structural limitations of fixings (depth, edge distance, etc.), layout (e.g. due to unforeseen fall hazards, such as rooflights, previously unknown or mislocated site hazards or restrictions), quantity of fixings, maximum number of users, spacing between intermediate anchor devices.