

Paragliding equipment — Emergency parachutes — Safety requirements and test methods

The European Standard EN 12491:2001 has the status of a British Standard

ICS 97.220.40

National foreword

This British Standard is the official English language version of EN 12491:2001.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted by Technical Committee SW/136, Sports and playground equipment, to Subcommittee SW/136/6, Paragliding, which has the responsibility to:

- aid enquirers to understand the text;
- present to the responsible European committee any enquiries on the interpretation, or proposals for change, and keep the UK interests informed;
- monitor related international and European developments and promulgate them in the UK.

A list of organizations represented on this subcommittee can be obtained on request to its secretary.

Cross-references

The British Standards which implement international or European publications referred to in this document may be found in the BSI Standards Catalogue under the section entitled “International Standards Correspondence Index”, or by using the “Find” facility of the BSI Standards Electronic Catalogue.

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This British Standard, having been prepared under the direction of the Consumer Products and Services Sector Committee, was published under the authority of the Standards Committee and comes into effect on 15 May 2001

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Exigences de sécurité et méthodes d'essai

Ausrüstung für das Gleitschirmfliegen - Rettungsfallschirme
- Sicherheitstechnische Anforderungen und Prüfverfahren

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 4 February 2001.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom.



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Foreword

This European Standard has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 136 "Sports, playground and other recreational equipment", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by September 2001, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by September 2001.

This standard is one of a package of standards on equipment for paragliding as follows:

EN 926-1, *Paragliding equipment – Paragliders – Part 1: Requirements and test methods for structural strength.*

ENV 926-2, *Paragliding equipment — Paragliders — Part 2: Requirements and flight tests.*

EN 1651, *Paragliding equipment — Harnesses — Safety requirements and strength tests.*

EN 12491, *Paragliding equipment — Emergency parachutes — Safety requirements and test methods.*

The annexes A, C and D are informative, annex B is normative.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

The aim of this standard is to enhance paraglider pilots' safety by testing to confirm that emergency parachutes are likely to be able to perform their intended function.

As it is essential that the complete system of harness and emergency parachute should have no untested components, it has been determined that the interface shall be the two attachment points required to be fitted to any EN 1651 Paragliding harness. Emergency parachutes are supplied by the manufacturer for testing complete with attachments suitable for connection to such a harness, and parachutes will be tested as if they were so connected. These connections are made in such a way, and/or using resistant material, so that they are not subject to friction or heat failure due to the tightening or slipping possible under shock loads. Any metal link is installed in such a way as to minimise any risk of injury to the pilot in an emergency deployment, and to ensure that it will be loaded in the direction of its maximum strength.