

ANSI-ASC A14.8-2013

# American National Standard Safety Requirements for Ladder Accessories



American National Standards

# **American National Standard Safety Requirements for Ladder Accessories**

Secretariat

**American Ladder Institute**

Approved May, 2013

**American National Standards Institute, Inc.**



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# American National Standard

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# Foreword

(This foreword is not part of the American National Standard A14.8-2013)

This standard on Ladder Accessories is one of the many American National Standards prepared under the ANSI Accredited Standards Committee on Safety in Construction, Care, and Use of Ladders. A14 Subcommittees that report to the A14 Standards committee have developed the following A14 Standards: A14.1 Portable Wood Ladders; A14.2 Portable Metal Ladders; A14.3 Fixed Ladders; A14.4 Job-made Ladders; A14.5 Portable Reinforced Plastic Ladders; A14.7 Mobile Ladder Stands and A14.9 Disappearing Attic Stairways.

This standard on Ladder Accessories was prepared under the supervision of the American National Standards A14 Accredited Standards on Safety in Construction, Care, and Use of Portable Ladders.

The A14.8 Ladder Accessories sub-committee was first formed in 1990 to develop a standard that includes the most commonly used and manufactured ladder accessories. The standard was written as a guide to both manufacturers and end users alike to guide them in the proper care, use and selection of these accessories.

This first edition of the American National Standard draws from the work that was done in the existing standards. The standard prescribes both general design requirements and specific design verification test requirements for each type of accessory. The primary intent behind the design verification testing is twofold. One, to test for the strength and integrity of the accessory itself, and the other to ensure the installed accessory does not have a detrimental effect on the intended performance of the ladder it is installed to. In addition, labeling, marking and instruction requirements are covered in this standard.

Suggestions for improvement for the standard are welcome. They may be sent to American Ladder Institute, 330 N. Wabash Ave., Suite 2000, Chicago, IL 60611. All comments must be sent on the Official Comment Form that can be found on the last page of this document. Each comment must include a rationale.

This standard was proposed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the American National Standards Committee on Safety in the Construction, Care, and Use of Portable Ladders. Committee approval of the standard does not necessarily imply that all the committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, the A14 had the following members:

Eric Knox, Chairman  
Dave Plotner, Vice Chair  
Janet Rapp, Secretariat

<b>Organization Represented</b>	<b>Name of Representative</b>
American Insurance Association .....	George Earhart
American Ladder Institute .....	Ron Schwartz Marc McConnell (Alt)
American Society of Safety Engineers.....	Michael Lorenzo
Associated General Contractors of America .....	Charles E. Bird
Canadian Standards Association.....	Oreste Simonetta
Cosco Home and Office Products.....	Eric Kruse Terry Emerson (Alt)
Featherlite Industries.....	Garry Turgeon Wolfgang Gelhard (Alt)
Illinois Association of Building Maintenance Contractors .....	Carl Pedersen James Weil (Alt)
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers .....	James Tomaseski
International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades.....	Greg Renne Dan Penski (Alt)
International Union of Bricklayers & Allied Craftsmen .....	Gerald Scarano
Louisville Ladder .....	Tom Schmitt
National Fire Protection Association .....	Scott Cramer Samuel C. Cramer (Alt)
National Frame Builders Association.....	Stan Virkler
Precision Ladders .....	Don McKinney Steve Richey (Alt)
Risk Retention Services .....	Paul B. Junius Robert G. Stuligross (Alt)
Scaffold Access Industry Association.....	Alan D. Kline Laurie Weber (Alt)
Steel Plate Fabricators Association.....	Don Baker
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The sub-committee A14.8 on Ladder Accessories which developed this standard, consists of the following members:

Alan D. Kline, Chairman  
Tom Schmitt, Co-Chairman

Steve Boots  
Brett Latimer  
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William G. Switalski  
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Jimmy Varisco

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# American National Standard Safety Requirements for Ladder Accessories

## 1. Scope and Purpose

### 1.1 Scope

This standard is for accessories used on individual ladders only and prescribes rules for governing the safe design, construction, and testing of accessories used in conjunction with a portable wood, metal or reinforced plastic ladder. This standard is limited to those accessories specifically defined.

Devices which may or may not be an integral part of the ladder, and without which the portable ladder cannot function in its intended manner such as hinges and hinge brackets, rung or step braces, locks and lock brackets, spreaders and top caps are not included in this standard. Replacement parts of essentially the same design and construction as the component being replaced are not included in this standard unless they are a component of the accessory itself.

It is intended that all ladders employing accessories covered by this standard comply with the requirements of the most current applicable American National Standard Safety Requirements For Portable Wood, Metal or Reinforced Plastic, ANSI A14.1, A14.2, and A14.5 respectively.

### 1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this standard is to provide reasonable safety for life, limb and property. This standard may serve as a basis for purchasing requirements, instruction and training of personnel and preparation of brochures, manuals, etc., regarding safe ladder and ladder accessory use, care and maintenance.

This standard is intended to provide guidelines for the safe design and construction of ladder accessories covered by this standard. It is also intended to provide the manufacturer of ladders and ladder accessories with a set of design, performance and construction requirements to which this product may be compared. It is not the purpose of this standard to specify all the

construction details or materials to be used for portable ladder accessories, but rather to provide general requirements and testing methods.

## 2. General

### 2.1 Rationale

The intent of this American National Standard for Ladder Accessories is to cover the widely accepted ladder accessories. The work loads listed in this standard are all derived from the existing A14 Standards.

### 2.2 Application

This standard is intended for voluntary use by establishments that use, distribute, or manufacture ladder accessories. It is also designed to serve as a guide to federal and state authorities or other regulatory bodies in the formulation of laws or regulations.

The proper regulatory or administrative authority shall determine the methods employed to ensure compliance with this standard.

### 2.3 Interpretation

To secure uniform application of this standard, it is recommended that suggestions involving changes in the requirements or disputes over their interpretation be referred to the following organization:

AMERICAN LADDER INSTITUTE  
330 NORTH WABASH AVENUE  
SUITE 2000  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611

### 2.4 Mandatory and Advisory Provisions

In view of the many different kinds of ladder accessories and the many different conditions under which they are used, this standard should be liberally construed considering the scope and purpose. In cases of practical