



AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

*ANSI/ASSE A10.3 – 2013
Safety Requirements for
Powder-Actuated Fastening Systems*

*American National Standard
for Construction and
Demolition Operations*

ANSI/ASSE A10.3 – 2013



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY ENGINEERS

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ANSI/ASSE A10.3 – 2013

**American National Standard
Construction and Demolition Operations**

**Safety Requirements for
Powder-Actuated Fastening Systems**

Secretariat

American Society of Safety Engineers
1800 East Oakton Street
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018-2187

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American National Standards Institute, Inc.

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Foreword (This Foreword is not a part of American National Standard A10.3-2013.)

This standard is one of a series of safety standards that have been formulated by the Accredited Standards Committee on Safety in Construction and Demolition Operations, A10. It is expected that the standards in the A10 series will find a major application in industry, serving as a guide to contractors, labor, and equipment manufacturers. For the convenience of users, a list of existing and proposed standards in the A10 series for Safety Requirements in Construction and Demolition Operations follows.

- A10.1 Pre-Project & Pre-Task Safety & Health Planning
- A10.2 Safety, Health and Environmental Training (under development)
- A10.3 Powder-Actuated Fastening Systems
- A10.4 Personnel Hoists and Employee Elevators
- A10.5 Material Hoists
- A10.6 Demolition Operations
- A10.7 Transportation, Storage, Handling and Use of Commercial Explosives and Blasting Agents
- A10.8 Scaffolding
- A10.9 Concrete and Masonry Construction
- A10.10 Temporary and Portable Space Heating Devices
- A10.11 Personnel and Debris Nets
- A10.12 Excavation
- A10.13 Steel Erection
- A10.15 Dredging
- A10.16 Tunnels, Shafts and Caissons
- A10.17 Safe Operating Practices for Hot Mix Asphalt (HMA) Construction
- A10.18 Temporary Roof and Floor Holes, Wall Openings, Stairways and Other Unprotected Edges
- A10.19 Pile Installation and Extraction Operations
- A10.20 Ceramic Tile, Terrazzo, and Marble Work
- A10.21 Safe Construction and Demolition of Wind Generation/Turbine Facilities (under development)
- A10.22 Rope-Guided and Non-Guided Workers' Hoists
- A10.23 Safety Requirements for the Installation of Drilled Shafts (under development)
- A10.24 Roofing – Safety Requirements for Low-Sloped Roofs
- A10.25 Sanitation in Construction
- A10.26 Emergency Procedures for Construction Sites
- A10.27 Hot Mix Asphalt Facilities
- A10.28 Work Platforms Suspended from Cranes or Derricks
- A10.29 Aerial Platforms in Construction (under development)
- A10.31 Digger-Derricks
- A10.32 Personal Fall Protection Used in Construction and Demolition Operations
- A10.33 Safety and Health Program Requirements for Multi-Employer Projects
- A10.34 Public Protection
- A10.37 Debris Nets
- A10.38 Basic Elements of a Program to Provide a Safe and Healthful Work Environment
- A10.39 Construction Safety and Health Audit Program
- A10.40 Reduction of Musculoskeletal Problems in Construction
- A10.41 Equipment Operator and Supervisor Qualifications and Responsibilities (under development)
- A10.42 Rigging Qualifications and Responsibilities in the Construction Industry
- A10.43 Confined Spaces in Construction (under development)
- A10.44 Lockout/Tagout in Construction

A10.46 Hearing Loss Prevention
A10.47 Highway Construction Safety
A10.48 Communication Tower Erection (under development)
A10.49 Control of Health Hazards (under development)

One purpose of these standards is to serve as guides to governmental authorities having jurisdiction over subjects within the scope of the A10 Committee standards. If these standards are adopted for governmental use, the reference of other national codes or standards in individual volumes may be changed to refer to the corresponding regulations.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD A10.3 SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR POWDER-ACTUATED FASTENING SYSTEMS

1. GENERAL

1.1 Scope. This standard provides safety requirements for low-velocity powder-actuated fastening tools that propel studs, pins, fasteners or other objects for the purpose of affixing them, by penetration, to hard structural material (such as concrete, masonry or steel).

This standard does not apply to devices designed for attaching objects to soft construction materials (such as wood, plaster, tar and dry wallboard) or very hard or brittle construction materials (such as cast iron, glazed tile, hardened steel, glass block, natural rock, hollow tile and most brick).

1.2 Purpose. The purpose of this standard is to provide reasonable safety for person and property by establishing requirements for design, construction, operation, service and storage of powder-actuated fastening tools, fasteners and powder loads. Existing powder-actuated fastening tools and accessory equipment meeting the mechanical criteria of previous versions of this ANSI/ASSE A10.3 standard need not be modified to conform to this version unless such modification is required by the regulatory agency having jurisdiction.

1.3 Modifications and Exemptions. In cases of practical difficulty and unnecessary hardship, the regulating body having jurisdiction may make exceptions to the literal requirements of this standard, but only when it is clearly evident that equivalent protection is thereby assured.

2. RELATED AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS AND OTHER REFERENCES

The following American National Standards contain additional information that may be of interest to some users, but they are not essential for the completion of the requirements of this standard.

ANSI/ASSE A10.18, *Safety Requirements for Temporary Floors, Holes, Wall Openings, Stairways and Other Unprotected Edges*

ANSI/ASSE A10.34, *Protection of the Public on or Adjacent to Construction Sites*

ANSI/ASSE A1264.1, *Safety Requirements for Workplace Floor and Wall Openings, Stairs and Railing Systems*

ANSI/ISEA Z87.1, *Occupational and Educational Personal Eye and Face Protection Devices*

ANSI/ISEA Z89.1, *Industrial Head Protection*

ANSI/NEMA Z535.1 to .5, *Safety Color Code – Environmental Facility Safety Signs – Criteria for Safety Symbols – Product Safety Sign and Labels and Accident Prevention Tags*

UL/CSA 60745-1, *Hand-Held Motor-Operated Electric Tools – Safety – Part 1: General Requirements*

3. DEFINITIONS

3.1 Angle Control. A safety feature designed to prevent a tool from operating when tilted beyond a predetermined angle.

3.2 Cased Powder Load. A powder load with the propellant contained in a closed case.