



AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

*ANSI/ASSE A10.32-2004
Fall Protection Systems—
American National Standard
for Construction and
Demolition Operations*

ANSI/ASSE A10.32-2004



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY ENGINEERS

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American National Standard
for Construction and Demolition Operations

Fall Protection Systems

Secretariat

American Society of Safety Engineers

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Approved May 3, 2004

American National Standards Institute, Inc.

American National Standard

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Published July 2004 by

American Society of Safety Engineers

1800 East Oakton Street
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018-2187
(847) 699-2929 • www.asse.org

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Printed in the United States of America

Foreword (This Foreword is not a part of American National Standard A10.32-2004.)

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.

- A10.2 Safety, Health, and Environmental Training (under development)
- A10.3 Powder-Actuated Fastening Systems
- A10.4 Personnel Hoists and Employee Elevators
- A10.5 Material Hoists (under development)
- 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 Floor Holes, Wall Openings, Stairways, and Other Unprotected Edges
- A10.19 Pile Installation and Extraction Operations (under development)
- A10.20 Ceramic Tile, Terrazzo, and Marble Work
- A10.21 Proper Cleaning and Disposal of Contaminated Work Clothing
- A10.22 Rope-Guided and Nonguided Workers' Hoists
- A10.23 Back Injury Prevention Programs (under development)
- A10.24 Roofing (under development)
- A10.25 Sanitation in Construction (under development)
- A10.26 Emergency Procedures for Construction Sites (under development)
- A10.27 Hot Mix Asphalt Facilities
- A10.28 Work Platforms Suspended from Cranes or Derricks
- A10.29 Aerial Lifts in Construction (under development)
- A10.30 Workplace Security
- A10.31 Digger-Derricks
- A10.32 Fall Protection Systems for Construction Industry Users
- A10.33 Safety and Health Program Requirements for Multi-Employer Projects
- A10.34 Public Protection
- A10.35 High Pressure Hydro Blasting (under development)
- A10.36 Railroad Construction Safety (under development)
- 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 Ergonomics in Construction (under development)
- 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 (under development)
- A10.45 Disaster Response Preparedness for Construction Workers (under development)
- A10.46 Hearing Loss Prevention (under development)
- A10.47 Highway Construction Safety (under development)
- A10.48 Communications Tower Erection (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.

Revisions: The A10 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 paragraph number(s), the proposed wording, and the reason for the proposal. Pertinent documentation would enable the A10 Committee to process the changes in a more timely manner.

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**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD
ANSI A10.32 STANDARD FOR PERSONAL FALL PROTECTION
USED IN
CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION OPERATIONS**

1. GENERAL

1.1 Scope. This standard establishes performance criteria for personal fall protection equipment and systems in construction and demolition and provides guidelines, recommendations for their use and inspection. It includes, but is not limited to; fall arrest, restraint, positioning, climbing, descending, rescue, escape and training activities. Exceptions: This standard does not include lineman's body belts, pole straps, window washers belts, chest/waist harnesses, and sports equipment.

1.2 Purpose. To provide minimum guidelines to users and manufacturers of personal fall protection equipment.

1.3 Application. This standard applies to manufacturers and users of personal fall protection equipment; to those personnel responsible for the selection, procurement, inspection, use, care and maintenance of the equipment; and to those responsible for training and supervision of the users.

1.4 Resolutions. In order to provide for superior protection to the user, this standard permits:

1.4.1 Only full body harnesses shall be used for fall arrest. The fall arrest attachment point of the body harness shall be at the center of the user's back near shoulder level.

1.4.2 Maximum arresting force imposed on the user's body shall not exceed 1,000 lb.

1.4.3 All equipment used in a fall protection system shall be compatible to limit force levels, maintain system strength, and prevent accidental disengagement.

E1.1 The personal fall protection equipment selected should match the particular work situation. A qualified or Competent Person should select the appropriate personal fall arrest, restraint or positioning equipment based on this person's professional evaluation of the work site, considering work conditions and the nature of the work performed. Ladder climbing protection devices are covered in ANSI A14.3.

E1.3 This standard applies to all users of fall protection equipment ranging in size from individuals to multiple employee companies.

E1.4.2 The maximum arresting force can be reduced by limiting the free fall distance, or using a deceleration device (self-retracting lanyard, shock absorber, or similar component of energy-absorbing equipment as an integral part of the fall protection system).

E1.4.3 Compatible devices are suitably sized and configured to properly operate together as a component part of a fall protection system.