AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

ANSI/ASSE Z359.3-2017
Safety Requirements for Lanyards and Positioning Lanyards

Part of the Fall Protection Code

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS

Approved American National Standard
ANSI

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ANSI/ASSE Z359.3 – 2017

American National Standard

Safety Requirements for Lanyards and Positioning Lanyards

Secretariat

American Society of Safety Engineers
520 N. Northwest Highway
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

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American National Standard

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Foreword (This Foreword is not a part of American National Standard Z359.3-2017.)

This standard, national in scope, was developed by an Accredited Standards Committee functioning under the procedures of the American National Standards Institute, with the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) as secretariat.

It is intended that every employer whose operations use fall protection equipment within the scope and purpose of this standard, will utilize equipment meeting the requirements of this standard.

The need for this standards activity grew out of the continuing development of a series of fall protection-related standards. The focus is to tie the elements of those standards together and provide the tools with which employers may develop the programs that incorporate those elements. This Z359 Fall Protection Code brings together the administrative requirements of those fall protection standards. It should be noted, as in all Z359-series standards, that this standard applies to occupational activities. It is not intended to apply to sports activities such as mountaineering.

Neither the standards committee, nor the secretariat, states that this standard is perfect or in its ultimate form. It is recognized that new developments are to be expected, and that revisions of the standard will be necessary as the state-of-the-art progresses and further experience is gained. It is felt, however, that uniform guidelines for fall protection programs are very much needed and that the standard in its present form provides for the minimum criteria necessary to develop and implement a comprehensive managed fall protection program.

The Z359 Committee acknowledges the critical role of design in influencing the use of proper fall protection equipment. Designs which eliminate fall hazards through the proper application of the hierarchy of safety controls are the preferred method for fall protection. Design deficiencies often increase the risk for employees who may be exposed to fall hazards: examples are (1) lack of rail systems to prevent falls from machines, equipment and structures; (2) failure to provide engineered anchorages where use of personal fall arrest systems are anticipated; (3) no provision for safe access to elevated work areas; (4) installation of machines or equipment at heights, rather than floor/ground level to preclude access to elevated areas; (5) failure to plan for the use of travel restriction or work positioning devices. To that end, this series of standards also provides guidance for design considerations for new buildings and facilities.

The Z359 Committee solicits public input that may suggest the need for revisions to this standard. Such input should be sent to the Secretariat, ASC Z359, American Society of Safety Engineers, 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068.

This standard was developed and approved for submittal to ANSI by the American National Standards Committee on Standards for Fall Protection, Z359. Committee approval of the standard does not necessarily imply that all committee members voted for its approval. At the time it approved this standard, the Z359 Committee had the following members:

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STANDARD REQUIREMENTS

1. SCOPE, PURPOSE, APPLICATIONS, EXCEPTIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

1.1 Scope.

1.1.1 This standard establishes requirements for the performance, design, marking, qualification and verification testing and instructions for lanyards and positioning lanyards for users within the capacity range of 130 to 310 pounds (59 to 140kg).

1.2 Purpose and Applications.

1.2.1 This standard is intended for use by manufacturers, distributors, purchasers, regulators, users and certifying bodies of lanyards and positioning lanyards.

1.2.2 Before any equipment shall bear the marking “Z359.3” or be represented in any way as being in compliance with this standard, all applicable requirements of this standard shall be met through qualification and verification testing in accordance with ANSI/ASSE Z359.7, *Qualification and Verification Testing of Fall Protection Products*.

1.2.3 Training and instruction on use, maintenance and removal from service of fall protection equipment shall be conducted according to ANSI/ASSE Z359.2, *Minimum Requirements for a Managed Fall Protection Program*.

1.2.4 In this standard, values for measurement are followed by an equivalent in parentheses, but only the first stated value shall be regarded as the requirement. Equivalent values in parentheses are not considered as the requirement as these values can be approximate.

1.2.5 Unless otherwise specified, the values stated in this standard are expressed as nominal values. Except for temperature limits, values which are not stated as maxima or minima shall be subject to a tolerance of +/- 5%. Unless otherwise specified, the ambient temperature for testing shall be

EXPLANATORY INFORMATION

(Not part of American National Standard Z359.3)

E1.1.1 *Although appearing similar to each other, positioning lanyards and lanyards have a different function. Positioning lanyards serve a support function, usually connecting hip to hip and hold a user in a working position, always under load when used. Lanyards serve a tethering function and are not routinely under load.*