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BSI Standards Publication

Personal fall protection equipment - Personal fall protection systems

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National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 363:2018. It supersedes BS EN 363:2008, which is withdrawn.

BSI, as a member of CEN, is obliged to publish EN 363:2018 as a British Standard. However, attention is drawn to the fact that during the development of this European Standard, the UK committee voted against its approval as a European Standard.

WARNING

In the opinion of the UK committee, this European standard offers unsound and conflicting advice on the choice of the body holding device as worn by users of work positioning systems. By following this advice, users of these systems may be at serious risk of injury in the event of a fall from a height.

The UK committee therefore strongly advises that the recommendations on the choice of body holding device as worn by users of work positioning systems, provided in National Annex NA, are followed to avoid potential accidents.

The UK participation in its preparation was entrusted to Technical Committee PH/5, Personal Fall Protection.

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

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

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Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

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Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected
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EUROPÄISCHE NORM

December 2018

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Supersedes EN 363:2008

English Version

Personal fall protection equipment - Personal fall protection systems

Équipement de protection individuelle contre les chutes de hauteur - Systèmes individuels de protection contre les chutes

Persönliche Absturzschutzausrüstung - Persönliche Absturzschutzsysteme

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 15 July 2018.

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 CEN-CENELEC 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 CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

CEN members are the national standards bodies of Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Kingdom.



EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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European foreword

This document (EN 363:2018) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 160 "Protection against falls from height including working belts", 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 June 2019, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by June 2019.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 363:2008.

Annex A provides details of significant technical changes between this document and the previous edition.

According to the CEN-CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organisations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

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Introduction

The European product standards for personal fall protection equipment that have been published through CEN/TC 160 "Protection against falls from height including working belts" specify product requirements and test methods for components, which are intended to be assembled to form personal fall protection systems.

This European Standard describes characteristics and principles for the assembly of personal fall protection systems in general, and, specifically, for restraint, work positioning, fall arrest, rope access and rescue systems. For the benefit of the user, examples of systems are provided, including figures to illustrate the various systems.

This European Standard does not give product requirements and test methods. Product requirements for conformity assessment are defined in the product standards.

This European Standard does not define the use of personal fall protection systems, but the recommendations and examples given in this European Standard are based on a common practice of using personal fall protection systems. When a personal fall protection system is used, a system that prevents a fall is preferable to a system that arrests a fall.

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1 Scope

This document specifies the general characteristics and assembly of personal fall protection systems. It gives examples for the specific types of personal fall protection systems and describes how components may be assembled into systems.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1 Categories

3.1.1

fall arrest

prevention of the user of a personal fall protection system from colliding with the ground, structure, or any other obstacle during a free fall

3.1.2

fall prevention

prevention of the user of a personal fall protection system from going into a free fall

3.2 Systems

3.2.1

personal fall protection system

assembly of components intended to protect the user against falls from a height, including a body holding device and an attachment system, which can be connected to a reliable anchorage point

Note 1 to entry: Excludes systems for professional and private sports activities.

Note 2 to entry: The attachment system may include an anchor device.

Note 3 to entry: A body holding device may be, for example, a full body harness, sit harness, work positioning belt, rescue harness, rescue loop.

3.2.1.1

restraint system

personal fall protection system which prevents the user from reaching zones where the risk of a fall from a height exists

3.2.1.2

work positioning system

personal fall protection system which enables the user to work in tension or suspension in such a way that a free fall is prevented

3.2.1.3

rope access system

personal fall protection system which enables the user to get to and from the place of work in such a way that a free fall is prevented or arrested, by using a working line and a safety line, connected separately to anchor points