BSI Standards Publication

Personal fall protection equipment — Rope access systems — Rope adjustment devices

National foreword

This British Standard is the UK implementation of EN 12841:2024. It supersedes BS EN 12841:2006, which is withdrawn.

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 committee manager.

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication has been prepared in good faith, however no representation, warranty, assurance or undertaking (express or implied) is or will be made, and no responsibility or liability is or will be accepted by BSI in relation to the adequacy, accuracy, completeness or reasonableness of this publication. All and any such responsibility and liability is expressly disclaimed to the full extent permitted by the law.

This publication is provided as is, and is to be used at the recipient's own risk.

The recipient is advised to consider seeking professional guidance with respect to its use of this publication.

This publication is not intended to constitute a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

This publication has been prepared under a mandate given to the European Standards Organizations by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association. It is intended to support requirements of the EU legislation detailed in the European Foreword. A European Annex, usually Annex ZA or ZZ, describes how this publication relates to that EU legislation.

For the Great Britain market (England, Scotland and Wales), if UK Government has designated this publication for conformity with UKCA marking (or similar) legislation, it may contain an additional National Annex. Where such a National Annex exists, it shows the correlation between this publication and the relevant UK legislation. If there is no National Annex of this kind, the relevant Annex ZA or ZZ in the body of the European text will indicate the relationship to UK regulation applicable in Great Britain. References to EU legislation may need to be read in accordance with the UK designation and the applicable UK law. Further information on designated standards can be found at www.bsigroup.com/standardsandregulation.

For the Northern Ireland market, UK law will continue to implement relevant EU law subject to periodic confirmation. Therefore Annex ZA/ZZ in the European text, and references to EU legislation, are still valid for this market.

UK Government is responsible for legislation. For information on legislation and policies relating to that legislation, consult the relevant pages of www.gov.uk.

Published by BSI Standards Limited 2024

ISBN 978 0 539 14383 6

ICS 13.340.60; 13.340.99

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

This British Standard was published under the authority of the Standards Policy and Strategy Committee on 31 March 2024.

Amendments/corrigenda issued since publication

Date	Text affected

EUROPEAN STANDARD **EN 12841**

NORME EUROPÉENNE

EUROPÄISCHE NORM

February 2024

ICS 13.340.60

Supersedes EN 12841:2006

English Version

Personal fall protection equipment - Rope access systems - Rope adjustment devices

Équipements de protection individuelle pour la prévention des chutes de hauteur - Systèmes d'accès par corde - Dispositif de réglage de corde pour maintien au poste de travail

Persönliche Absturzschutzausrüstung - Systeme für seilunterstützten Zugang - Seileinstellvorrichtungen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 17 December 2023.

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, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and United Kingdom.

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

CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels

Ref. No. EN 12841:2024 E

Contents

Page

European foreword

This document (EN 12841:2024) 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 August 2024, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2024.

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 12841:2006.

A list of technical changes between this edition and EN 12841:2006 is given in Annex C. Background and rationale about the changes between this edition and EN 12841:2006 is given in Annex B.

This document has been prepared under a standardization request addressed to CEN by the European Commission. The Standing Committee of the EFTA States subsequently approves these requests for its Member States.

For the relationship with EU Legislation, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

Any feedback and questions on this document should be directed to the users’ national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found on the CEN website.

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, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye and the United Kingdom.

Introduction

In rope access systems, rope adjustment devices are used in combination with suitable anchor lines, which could be a working line or a safety line, e.g. made of ropes conforming to Type A of EN 1891:1998. Rope adjustment devices are intended to be used to link suitable sit harnesses (e.g. conforming to EN 813) or suitable full body harnesses (e.g. conforming to EN 361) to a working line and a safety line to allow access, egress and changes in the work position, to give support and to protect against falls.

Attention is drawn to the limitations of rope adjustment devices. Type A rope adjustment devices are for use on safety lines to prevent a fall in the event of failure of the working line or its components. However, in extreme circumstances, such as failure of the working line or its components during improper use of the system, Type A rope adjustment devices may be called upon to prevent or arrest a limited fall. This is reflected in the test requirements. Type B and C rope adjustment devices are for ascending and descending a working line respectively, but also have a fall prevention function. The design of each type may be incorporated into another when, in every case, they should meet the higher requirements of any common or similar test.

In a rope access system, the worker is typically protected by a Type A rope adjustment device connected to a safety line and a Type B or C rope adjustment device connected to a working line. The two rope adjustment devices with their respective anchor line are all components of the protective system. It is fundamental for the safe use of a rope access system that the worker is always connected to both anchor lines, and that any slack in the anchor lines and connecting lanyards is avoided.

A non-exhaustive list of useful information for the rope adjustment devices described in this document is provided in the informative Annex A.

1 Scope

This document applies to rope adjustment devices intended for use in rope access systems. It specifies the requirements, test methods, marking and manufacturer's instructions and information.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 363:2018, *Personal fall protection equipment - Personal fall protection systems*

EN 364:1992, *Personal protective equipment against falls from a height - Test methods*

EN 365:2004, *Personal protective equipment against falls from a height - General requirements for instructions for use, maintenance, periodic examination, repair, marking and packaging*

EN 892:2012+A3:2023, *Mountaineering equipment - Dynamic mountaineering ropes - Safety requirements and test methods*

EN 1891:1998, *Personal protective equipment for the prevention of falls from a height - Low stretch kernmantel ropes*

EN ISO 9227:2022, *Corrosion tests in artificial atmospheres - Salt spray tests (ISO 9227:2022)*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 363:2018 and the following apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at https://www.electropedia.org/

3.1
rope adjustment device
component which, when fitted to an appropriate anchor line, will enable the user to vary his or her position along the anchor line

Note 1 to entry: Rope adjustment devices are sub-divided into Types A, B and C. The same rope adjustment device may conform to more than one type.

3.2
anchor line
flexible line connected at least at one end to an anchor point, to provide a means of support or safeguard for a person

NOTE 1 to entry: An anchor line can be a working line or a safety line.

3.3
safety line
anchor line provided as a safeguard