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Second edition  
2019-10

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## **Safety of machinery — Safety distances to prevent hazard zones being reached by upper and lower limbs**

*Sécurité des machines — Distances de sécurité empêchant les  
membres supérieurs et inférieurs d'atteindre les zones dangereuses*



Reference number  
ISO 13857:2019(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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## Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see [www.iso.org/directives](http://www.iso.org/directives)).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see [www.iso.org/patents](http://www.iso.org/patents)).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) see [www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html](http://www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html).

This document was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 199, *Safety of machinery*.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at [www.iso.org/members.html](http://www.iso.org/members.html).

This second edition cancels and replaces the first edition (ISO 13857:2008) which has been technically revised. The main change compared to the previous edition is that the document has been made more readable and more in line with ISO 12100:2010.

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## Introduction

The structure of safety standards in the field of machinery is as follows:

- a) **type-A standards** (basic safety standards) giving basic concepts, principles for design, and general aspects that can be applied to all machinery;
- b) **type-B standards** (generic safety standards) dealing with one safety aspect or one or more type(s) of safeguard that can be used across a wide range of machinery:
  - type-B1 standards on particular safety aspects (e.g. safety distances, surface temperature, noise);
  - type-B2 standards on safeguards (e.g. two-hand controls, interlocking devices, pressure sensitive devices, guards).
- c) **type-C standards** (machine safety standards) dealing with detailed safety requirements for a particular machine or group of machines.

This document is a type-B1 standard as stated in ISO 12100:2010.

This document is of relevance, in particular, for the following stakeholder groups representing the market players with regard to machinery safety:

- machine manufacturers (small, medium and large enterprises);
- health and safety bodies (regulators, accident prevention organisations, market surveillance etc.);

Others can be affected by the level of machinery safety achieved with the means of the document by the above-mentioned stakeholder groups:

- machine users/employers (small, medium and large enterprises);
- machine users/employees (e.g. trade unions, organizations for people with special needs);
- service providers, e. g. for maintenance (small, medium and large enterprises);
- consumers (in case of machinery intended for use by consumers).

The above-mentioned stakeholder groups have been given the possibility to participate at the drafting process of this document.

In addition, this document is intended for standardization bodies elaborating type-C standards.

The requirements of this document can be supplemented or modified by a type-C standard.

For machines which are covered by the scope of a type-C standard and which have been designed and built according to the requirements of that standard, the requirements of that type-C standard take precedence.

One method of eliminating or reducing risks caused by machinery is to make use of safety distances preventing hazard zones from being reached by the upper and lower limbs.

In specifying safety distances, a number of aspects need to be taken into consideration, such as:

- reach situations occurring when machinery is being used;
- reliable surveys of anthropometric data, taking into account population groups likely to be found in the countries concerned;
- biomechanical factors, such as compression and stretching of parts of the body and limits of joint rotation;
- technical and practical aspects; and

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- additional measures for particular groups of persons (e.g. persons with special needs), which can be required due to a deviation from the specified body dimensions.