

FALL PROTECTION FUNCTIONAL CATEGORIES

Fall protection system products can function within any specified combination of four different categories: Fall Arrest, Positioning, Suspension and Retrieval.

Fall Arrest: A fall arrest system is required whenever a working height of six feet (6') or more is reached. It is a passive means to protect the user in the event a fall should occur. (A working height is defined as the distance from the walking/working surface to a grade or lower level.)

Positioning: A personal positioning system is one that enables the user to maintain their position in a hands-free environment, allowing them complete use of their hands while working. This system is used in conjunction with a fall arrest system as a backup.

Suspension: A suspension system is utilized whenever the worker needs to be lowered and supported in their working environment, such as during window washing or painting. This system provides a hands-free environment for the user to function in. It is used in conjunction with a fall arrest system as a backup.

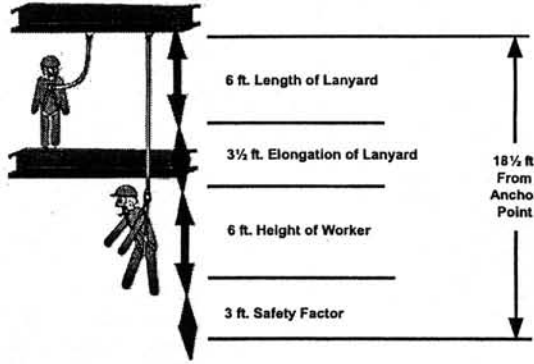
Retrieval: A retrieval system is primarily used in confined spaces where a worker may be lowered into (manhole, etc.) and possibly require fast retrieval due to an emergency situation.

GENERAL PRECAUTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS (Refer to ANSI Z359.1)

- All warnings and instructions shall be provided to users, as well as be read and understood prior to using equipment. The employer must instruct employees in the proper use of the equipment, enable each employee to recognize the hazards of falling, and train employees in procedures to minimize these hazards. Equipment is to be utilized by properly trained, competent professionals only.
- The employer must have a rescue plan and the means to implement it when using the equipment.
- Fall arrest equipment **MUST** only be used for the purpose for which it was designed and intended. NEVER use positioning equipment where a personal fall arrest system is warranted.
- Always use compatible components. SafeWaze® products are designed for use with other SafeWaze® products. Substitution or replacement with non-approved component combinations or subsystems may affect or interfere with the safe function of each other and therefore endanger the user. Contact your SafeWaze® representative for information on system design.
- The maximum working load is 310 lbs unless otherwise stated in instructions.
- Extreme care must be taken when using equipment around moving machinery, electrical hazards, or near sharp edges and abrasive surfaces.
- All synthetic material must be protected from slag, hot sparks, open flames, or other heat sources. The use of heat resistant materials are recommended in these applications.
- Environmental hazards should be considered when selecting fall protection equipment. Equipment must not be exposed to chemicals which may produce a harmful effect. Polyester should be used in certain chemical or acidic environments.
- Anchorages used for attachment of personal fall arrest systems must be independent of any anchorages used to suspend or support platforms and must be capable of supporting at least 5,000 lbs.
- An anchor point must be kept above and to the rear of the D-ring. Never attach a ladder or rebar hooks onto a D-ring. Never attach multiple snap hooks onto a D-ring.

FREE-FALL PRECAUTIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS

- OSHA requires that each employee utilize fall protection when exposed to the risk of falling six feet (6') or more in construction, or four feet (4') or more in general industry.
- OSHA requires that the impact force of a fall, while using an approved body harness, does not exceed 1,800 lbs.



- Always check for obstructions below the work area to make sure the potential fall path is clear. The free-fall distance must never exceed six feet (6').
- The maximum arresting force of a fall arrest system is evaluated under normal conditions.

Any equipment subject to a fall must be removed from service.

CLEANING, INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE PRECAUTIONS

- Equipment must be inspected daily by a qualified person, and removed from service and destroyed or discarded if it does not pass the daily inspection. All equipment must be inspected before each use for: product defects or damage; excessive or necessary lubrication (if relevant); absence or illegibility of markings; absence of any elements affecting the equipment form, fit or function; and any product alteration.
- The entire unit is to be free from burns, cuts, cracks, sharp edges, chemical deformation, corrosion, heat damage, abrasions, kinks, knots, broken strands, fraying, broken or pulled stitching, alteration and excessive wear or aging. Any equipment exhibiting deformities, unusual wear or deterioration must be immediately discarded.
- Equipment which is in need of or scheduled for maintenance shall be tagged as "unusable" and removed from service.
- Equipment must be destroyed if subjected to loading of an impact.
- Never abuse or misuse equipment.
- Never alter or attempt to repair this equipment. Repairs must be performed only by the equipment manufacturer or persons/companies authorized in writing by the manufacturer.
- Wash nylon webbing with warm water and a mild detergent. Avoid harsh chemicals.
- Allow nylon webbing to air dry. Do not add heat.
- Inspect connectors and snap hooks. Lubricate with a light lubricating oil.
- Store away from direct sunlight in a dry, cool area free from oil, degrading elements, chemicals and their vapors.
- Snap hooks should not be cracked or distorted. Snap hook keepers must be free of burrs, clean and not bent. Visually check all snap hook connections.