

ANSI Harness Certification Standards



The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has administered an engineering standardization system since 1918. ANSI Z359.11 Safety Requirements for Full Body Harnesses require a static test and a dynamic (drop) test.

The **static test** is conducted on all attachment points (fall arrest, travel restrict and work positioning). Where attachment points, such as shoulder or side D-rings, are intended for use in pairs, the test is done in pairs.

The **dynamic test** is conducted on the dorsal, sternal and waist attachment points. Both head-up and head-down tests are conducted on the dorsal attachment point, but only head-up on the sternal and waist attachment points.

All tests are conducted on a 100 kg (220 lb) test mass to a minimum peak impact force of 16 kN (3,600 lbf).

NFPA Harness Certification Standards



NFPA 1983 Certification for Class II and Class III Life Safety Harnesses and Escape Belts require both a static test and a drop test.

The **static test** differentiates between load-bearing attachment points and positioning attachment points, with different load requirements for each. Where attachment points, such as shoulder or side D-rings, are intended to be used in pairs, the test is done on the pairs.

A **drop test** is also required for each attachment point on a harness or belt. The test method uses a 136 kg (300 lb) manikin that is dropped 1 meter on a 1.2 meter steel lanyard. The standard stipulates that each harness and belt be tested both with a head-up drop and then a head-down drop.