

ANSI®
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American National Standard

**Safety Requirements for
Assisted-Rescue and Self-Rescue Systems,
Subsystems and Components**

Secretariat

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**AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD Z359.4
SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR
ASSISTED-RESCUE AND SELF-RESCUE SYSTEMS,
SUBSYSTEMS AND COMPONENTS**

Standard Requirements

Explanatory Information

1. SCOPE, PURPOSE, APPLICATION, EXCEPTIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS

1.1 Scope. This standard establishes requirements for the performance, design, marking, qualification, instruction, training, use, maintenance, and removal from service of connectors, harnesses, lanyards, anchorage connectors, winches/hoists, descent control devices, rope tackle blocks, and self-retracting lanyards with integral rescue capability comprising rescue systems, utilized in pre-planned self-rescue and assisted-rescue applications for one to two persons.

1.2 Purpose and Application. The purpose of this standard is to establish criteria to ensure suitability of the equipment and methods defined herein for use in rescue situations where a fall hazard exists.

Rescue system elements, components, or subsystems meeting the requirements of this standard may not be represented as complying with or used in personal fall arrest systems (PFAS) claiming compliance with ANSI/ASSE Z359.1 unless the requirements of that standard are additionally met.

1.3 Exceptions.

1.3.1 The requirements of this standard do not address the construction industry (SIC Division C), sport-related activities, rope access rescue techniques utilized by certified rescue technicians, or other tasks that have established national consensus standards. However, this does not preclude use of equipment addressed within this standard for such activities where appropriate.

1.3.2 The competent person shall determine the suitability of equipment addressed within this standard for activities conducted in hazardous atmospheres.

E1.3.2 For a definition of competent person refer to the ANSI/ASSE Z359.0, *Definitions and Nomenclature Used for Fall Protection and Fall Arrest*, and for additional information refer to ANSI/ASSE Z359.2, *Accepted Practices for Fall Protection*.

1.4 Interpretations. Requests for interpretations of this standard shall be in writing and addressed to the Secretariat of this standard.