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11.1 Definitions

In this Part

"anchor" means a component or subsystem of a fall protection system used to connect the other parts of a fall protection system to an anchorage, and includes an anchorage connector;

"anchorage" means a secure connection point for a fall protection system;

"fall arrest system" means a system that will stop a worker's fall before the worker hits the surface below;

"fall protection system" means

- (a) a fall restraint system,
- (b) a fall arrest system, or
- (c) work procedures that are acceptable to the Board and minimize the risk of injury to a worker from a fall;

"fall restraint system" means a system to prevent a worker from falling from a work position, or from travelling to an unguarded edge from which the worker could fall;

"full body harness" means a body support device consisting of connected straps designed to distribute the force resulting from a fall over at least the thigh, shoulders and pelvis, with provision for attaching a lanyard, lifeline or other components;

"horizontal lifeline system" means a system composed of a synthetic or wire rope, installed horizontally between 2 anchors, to which a worker attaches a personal fall protection system;

"lanyard" means a flexible line of webbing, or synthetic or wire rope, that is used to secure a safety belt or full body harness to a lifeline or anchor;

"lifeline" means a synthetic or wire rope, rigged from one or more anchors, to which a worker's lanyard or other part of a personal fall protection system is attached;

"personal fall protection system" means a worker's fall restraint system or fall arrest system composed of

- (a) a safety belt or full body harness, and
- (b) a lanyard, lifeline and any other connecting equipment individual to the worker

that is used to secure the worker to an anchor, an anchorage or a horizontal lifeline system;

"safety belt" means a body support device consisting of a strap with a means for securing it about the waist and attaching it to other components;

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 404/2012, effective April 1, 2013.]

11.2 Obligation to use fall protection

(1) Unless elsewhere provided for in this Regulation, an employer must ensure that a fall protection system is used when work is being done at a place

- (a) from which a fall of 3 m (10 ft) or more may occur, or
- (b) where a fall from a height of less than 3 m involves a risk of injury greater than the risk of injury from the impact on a flat surface.

(2) The employer must ensure that guardrails meeting the requirements of Part 4 (General Conditions) or other similar means of fall restraint are used when practicable.

- (3) If subsection (2) is not practicable, the employer must ensure that another fall restraint system is used.
- (4) If subsection (3) is not practicable, the employer must ensure that one of the following is used:
 - (a) a fall arrest system;
 - (b) a rope access system that meets the requirements of Part 34.
- (5) If subsection (4) is not practicable, or will result in a hazard greater than if a fall arrest system or a rope access system was not used, the employer must ensure that work procedures are followed that are acceptable to the Board and minimize the risk of injury to a worker from a fall.
- (6) Before a worker is allowed into an area where a risk of falling exists, the employer must ensure that the worker is instructed in the fall protection system for the area and the procedures to be followed.
- (7) A worker must use the fall protection system provided by the employer.

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 199/2014, effective February 1, 2015.]

11.3 Fall protection plan

- (1) The employer must have a written fall protection plan for a workplace if
 - (a) work is being done at a location where workers are not protected by permanent guardrails, and from which a fall of 7.5 m (25 ft) or more may occur, or
 - (b) section 11.2(5) applies.
 - (c) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]
 - (2) The fall protection plan must be available at the workplace before work with a risk of falling begins.
 - (3) Repealed. [B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]
- [Amended by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

11.4 Selection of harness or belt

- (1) A worker must wear a full body harness or other harness acceptable to the Board when using a personal fall protection system for fall arrest.
 - (2) A worker must wear a safety belt, a full body harness or other harness acceptable to the Board when using a personal fall protection system for fall restraint.
- [Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

11.5 Equipment standards

Equipment used for a fall protection system must

- (a) consist of compatible and suitable components,
- (b) be sufficient to support the fall restraint or arrest forces, and
- (c) meet, and be used in accordance with, an applicable CSA or ANSI standard in effect when the equipment was manufactured, subject to any modification or upgrading considered necessary by the Board.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

11.6 Anchors

- (1) In a temporary fall restraint system, an anchor for a personal fall protection system must have an ultimate load capacity in any direction in which a load may be applied of at least
 - (a) 3.5 kN (800 lbs), or
 - (b) four times the weight of the worker to be connected to the system.
- (2) Each personal fall protection system that is connected to an anchor must be secured to an independent attachment point.

(3) In a temporary fall arrest system, an anchor for a personal fall protection system must have an ultimate load capacity in any direction required to resist a fall of at least

- (a) 22 kN (5 000 lbs), or
- (b) two times the maximum arrest force.

(4) A permanent anchor for a personal fall protection system must have an ultimate load capacity in any direction required to resist a fall of at least 22 kN (5 000 lbs).

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 19/2006, effective May 17, 2006.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 404/2012, effective April 1, 2013.]

11.7 Temporary horizontal lifelines

A temporary horizontal lifeline system may be used if the system is

- (a) manufactured for commercial distribution and installed and used in accordance with the written instructions from the manufacturer or authorized agent, and the instructions are readily available in the workplace,
- (b) installed and used in accordance with written instructions certified by a professional engineer, and the instructions are readily available in the workplace, or
- (c) designed, installed and used in a manner acceptable to the Board.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 19/2006, effective May 17, 2006.]

11.8 Certification by engineer

The following types of equipment and systems, and their installation, must be certified by a professional engineer:

- (a) permanent anchors,
- (b) anchors with multiple attachment points,
- (c) permanent horizontal lifeline systems, and
- (d) support structures for safety nets.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

11.9 Inspection and maintenance

Equipment used in a fall protection system must be

- (a) inspected by a qualified person before use on each workshift,
- (b) kept free from substances and conditions that could contribute to its deterioration, and
- (c) maintained in good working order.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

11.10 Removal from service

(0.1) If, at any time, a permanent anchor does not meet the requirements of section 11.5(c), the anchor must not be used until it has been inspected and recertified, by a professional engineer, as meeting the requirements of section 11.5(c).

(1) After a fall protection system has arrested the fall of a worker, it must

- (a) be removed from service, and
- (b) not be returned to service until it has been inspected and recertified as safe for use by the manufacturer or its authorized agent, or by a professional engineer.

(2) Subject to subsection (3), subsection (1)(b) does not apply to a personal fall protection system designed and intended for reuse by a performer in the entertainment industry for conducting a planned fall sequence.

(3) The following conditions must be met before a personal fall protection system described in subsection (2) will be exempt from subsection (1) (b):

(a) the system must be designed and used in accordance with a standard acceptable to the Board;

(b) each use of the system must be carried out in accordance with the plan for the conduct of the fall;

(c) the peak arrest forces generated in the system during each use must be at or below both the planned limits and the maximum forces allowed for the system;

(d) after each use of the system no part of the system, including the anchorage, may be reused until a qualified person has inspected it and determined it is in serviceable condition and safe for reuse.

[Enacted by B.C. Reg. 420/2004, effective January 1, 2005.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 320/2007, effective February 1, 2008.]

[Amended by B.C. Reg. 404/2012, effective April 1, 2013.]