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Group**

**Z259.12-16**

# **Connecting components for personal fall-arrest systems (PFAS)**

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# Preface

This is the third edition of CSA Z259.12, *Connecting components for personal fall-arrest systems (PFAS)*. It supersedes the previous editions, published in 2011 and 2001.

This Standard is part of a series of Standards on components of fall-protection systems and provides performance requirements, test methods, and requirements for marking individual components used as part of a personal fall-arrest system.

Changes to this edition include

- a) updates to definitions and figures;
- b) revision to soft loop testing procedure;
- c) revisions to the marking requirements; and
- d) addition of requirements for transverse body loading (both static and dynamic).

CSA Group acknowledges that the development of this Standard was made possible, in part, by the financial support of the Canadian government departments responsible for occupational health and safety.

This Standard was prepared by the Subcommittee on Connecting Components, under the jurisdiction of the Technical Committee on Fall Protection and the Strategic Steering Committee on Occupational Health and Safety, and has been formally approved by the Technical Committee.

## Notes:

- 1) *Use of the singular does not exclude the plural (and vice versa) when the sense allows.*
- 2) *Although the intended primary application of this Standard is stated in its Scope, it is important to note that it remains the responsibility of the users of the Standard to judge its suitability for their particular purpose.*
- 3) *This Standard was developed by consensus, which is defined by CSA Policy governing standardization — Code of good practice for standardization as “substantial agreement. Consensus implies much more than a simple majority, but not necessarily unanimity”. It is consistent with this definition that a member may be included in the Technical Committee list and yet not be in full agreement with all clauses of this Standard.*
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  - b) *provide an explanation of circumstances surrounding the actual field condition; and*
  - c) *where possible, phrase the request in such a way that a specific “yes” or “no” answer will address the issue.*

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- 5) *This Standard is subject to review five years from the date of publication. Suggestions for its improvement will be referred to the appropriate committee. To submit a proposal for change, please send the following information to [inquiries@csagroup.org](mailto:inquiries@csagroup.org) and include “Proposal for change” in the subject line:*
  - a) *Standard designation (number);*
  - b) *relevant clause, table, and/or figure number;*
  - c) *wording of the proposed change; and*
  - d) *rationale for the change.*

# Z259.12-16

## ***Connecting components for personal fall-arrest systems (PFAS)***

### **0 Introduction**

Connecting components are classified into two categories. Class I connectors are intended for fall-arrest and can be an integral part of an approved subsystem or be provided separately to connect subsystems together and/or be connected to an anchorage or anchorage connector. Class II connectors are other connecting elements provided as an integral part of an approved subsystem. Class II connectors can be made by such means of manufacture as stitching, rope splicing, swaging, and heat fusion.

### **1 Scope**

#### **1.1**

This Standard specifies design and performance requirements, test methods, and requirements for marking and labelling individual connecting components used as part of a personal fall-arrest system (PFAS). This Standard applies to components that are

- a) used in the interconnection of a complete PFAS unit in accordance with the applicable CSA Z259 series of standards;
- b) intended to be used as the primary single link to a permanent anchorage connector; or
- c) intended to be used as a primary attachment point between two or more subsystems.

#### **1.2**

This Standard does not apply to anchorage connectors that are covered under CAN/CSA-Z259.15.

#### **1.3**

In this Standard, "shall" is used to express a requirement, i.e., a provision that the user is obliged to satisfy in order to comply with the Standard; "should" is used to express a recommendation or that which is advised but not required; and "may" is used to express an option or that which is permissible within the limits of the Standard.

Notes accompanying clauses do not include requirements or alternative requirements; the purpose of a note accompanying a clause is to separate from the text explanatory or informative material.

Notes to tables and figures are considered part of the table or figure and may be written as requirements.

Annexes are designated normative (mandatory) or informative (non-mandatory) to define their application.

#### **1.4**

The values given in SI units are the units of record for the purposes of this Standard. The values given in parentheses are for information and comparison only.