



SLOVENSKI STANDARD

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Športni in rekreacijski pripomočki - Vrvni plezalni parki - 2. del: Zahteve za delovanje

Sports- and recreational facilities - Ropes courses - Part 2: Operation requirements

Sport- und Freizeitanlagen - Seilgärten - Teil 2: Anforderungen an den Betrieb

Structures de sport et d'activités de plein air - Parcours acrobatiques en hauteur - Partie 2: Exigences d'exploitation

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EUROPEAN STANDARD

EN 15567-2

NORME EUROPÉENNE

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English Version

Sports- and recreational facilities - Ropes courses - Part 2: Operation requirements

Structures de sport et d'activités de plein air - Parcours
acrobatiques en hauteur - Partie 2: Exigences d'exploitation

Sport- und Freizeitanlagen - Seilgärten - Teil 2: Betriebliche
Anforderungen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 12 March 2015.

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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR STANDARDIZATION
COMITÉ EUROPÉEN DE NORMALISATION
EUROPÄISCHES KOMITEE FÜR NORMUNG

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Foreword

This document (EN 15567-2:2015) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 136 "Sports, playground and other recreational facilities and equipment", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by November 2015, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by November 2015.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN [and/or CENELEC] shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document supersedes EN 15567-2:2007.

EN 15567 consists of the following parts, under the general title, *Sports and recreational facilities — Ropes courses*:

- *Part 1: Construction and safety requirements*;
- *Part 2: Operational requirements*.

The main changes to EN 15567-2:2007 are:

- a) terms and definitions revised (Clause 3);
- b) introduction of a categorization of individual safety systems and their respective requirements (Clause 3 and Clause 6);
- c) requirements for supervision revised in accordance with the categories of individual safety systems (Clause 9);
- d) correction of editorial errors.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

EN 15567-2:2015 (E)**Introduction**

Ropes courses vary considerably and may be used for educational, recreational, training or therapeutic purposes.

Ropes course activities should only be undertaken by those who are physically and mentally able to comply with the safety requirements specified by the operator.

Ropes course activities involve risks that should be managed by the manufacturers and operators. This is achieved through careful design, manufacture, supervision, training, instruction, information etc.

Safety systems can be collective or individual. Individual safety systems are classified in categories A to E. However these categories do not in themselves determine the safety of the ropes course. The various safety devices consist of equipment designed to limit the consequences of falls or collisions. There are inherent risks associated with ropes courses. These risks should however be appropriately managed and minimized by the ropes course operator and their staff; it should be understood that the risks cannot be eliminated altogether.

On the basis of a risk assessment, operators should take reasonably practicable measures to ensure the safety of participants. This means that the degree of risk in a particular job/work place/facility need to be balanced against the time, trouble, cost, benefits and physical difficulty of taking measures to avoid or reduce the risk.

It is recognized that application of every provision of this standard may not be appropriate in all circumstances. Any deviation from the standard should provide an equal or greater level of safety. When deviating from the standard a written risk assessment, setting out the rationale for the deviation should be provided.

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Ropes course operators should also consider EN 15567-1, when carrying out risk assessments.

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1 Scope

This European Standard applies to the operation of ropes courses as defined in EN 15567-1.

This European Standard specifies operational requirements to ensure an appropriate level of safety and service when used for recreational, training, educational or therapeutic purposes.

2 Normative references

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 15567-1:2015, *Sports and recreational facilities — Ropes courses — Part 1: Construction and safety requirements*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purpose of this document, the following terms and definitions apply.

3.1

instructor

individual possessing the skills, knowledge, experience and judgement to supervise tasks or activities satisfactorily on a ropes course

Note 1 to entry: The role of an instructor can include the following:

- providing the information required to ensure that the equipment and elements are used correctly;
- checking that participants use the right equipment;
- assessing a participant's self-sufficiency on a test ropes course;
- providing appropriate levels of supervision;
- ensuring that the safety instructions are complied with;
- alerting a rescuer if required;
- providing assistance to participants;
- undertaking routine visual inspections.

3.2

operator

individual or organisation responsible for the operation of a ropes course

3.3

rescuer

instructor with the skills and competence to remove safely a person from any location on the ropes course accessed by the safety system

3.4

accident

event that results in an injury

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3.5
level 1 supervision
 situation whereby an instructor can physically intervene to prevent a misuse of the individual safety system leading to a significant risk of serious injury or death

3.6
level 2 supervision
 situation whereby an instructor is able to see the participant and intervene verbally

3.7
level 3 supervision
 situation whereby a participant is in a position to alert an instructor of their need for assistance, who is able to respond promptly to the alert and provide adequate assistance

Note 1 to entry: It is intended that the role of the instructor is to be available to provide adequate assistance to a participant if called upon to do so. This is a largely reactive, rather than proactive, role.

3.8
supervising adult
 person aged 18 or above who is either the parent/legal guardian or has the authority of the parent/legal guardian of the child participant(s) and who has undertaken adequate training to accompany the child participant(s) and is in a position to see the child participant(s) and intervene verbally

3.9
PPE-inspector
 competent person who is appropriately qualified to inspect PPE

3.10
individual safety system
 component(s) connecting the harness to the safety line

Note 1 to entry: Each of the following systems A to E provide adequate levels of safety when used in combination with appropriate supervision, training, instruction and information.

3.10.1
individual safety system category A
 self-closing device which is not automatically self-locking

EXAMPLE Self-closing or screw gate connector.

Note 1 to entry: See also 7.1.

3.10.2
individual safety system category B
 self-locking device

EXAMPLE Self-locking connector.

3.10.3
individual safety system category C
 interlocking device designed to reduce the likelihood of unintentional detaching from the safety system

3.10.4
individual safety system category D
 interlocking device designed to prevent unintentional detaching from the safety system

3.10.5**individual safety system category E**

device that is permanently attached during operation and can only be opened with a tool

4 Documents relating to site operation**4.1 Administrative documentation**

The following administrative documentation shall be maintained:

- a) name and address of the owner and operator;
- b) any relevant permit and registration;
- c) a certificate of conformity to EN 15567-1 including the name and address of the manufacturer and the date of manufacture;
- d) document indicating the annual inspections carried out by an inspection body;
- e) list of the site personnel, their function and qualification/competence;
- f) evidence of public and other liability insurance.

4.2 Operation documentation

The site operation documentation shall include:

- a) logbook containing the daily operation sheets (including the faults observed during inspections at opening and closing times and relevant events concerning safety) (see the sample sheet in informative Annex A). The daily sheets should be kept for three years;
- b) accident report sheets;
- c) personal protective equipment inspection register and operation log;
- d) risk assessment and management plan which shall be drawn up by the ropes course operator. In case of deviations from the general requirements for supervision, a risk assessment and user manual shall be supplied;
- e) instructor and rescue training documents which demonstrate instructor competence in their role;
- f) participant safety instructions;
- g) manufacturer's product manual (see EN 15567-1:2015, 8.2);
- h) safety and emergency plan (see Clause 11);
- i) current tree assessment report (if relevant);
- j) current inspection report carried out by an inspection body;
- k) safety instructions.

4.3 Competence of instructors and rescuers

Ropes course operators shall verify through documentation (e.g. training records, certification, etc.) the competence of their instructors.

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With regards to the competence of instructors and rescuers for ropes courses operators shall identify the processes for:

- a) induction;
- b) training;
- c) validation (by internal or external means);
- d) deployment to appropriate tasks and duties;
- e) field monitoring by a competent person;
- f) providing further training and/or experience.

5 Information to be provided to participants

The following information shall be provided to participants:

- a) description of the activity;
- b) safety instructions and the responsibility of participants to follow such instructions;
- c) limits and restrictions for use;
- d) information about how to identify the course instructors.

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6 Safety instructions for and practical assessment of participants

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6.1 General

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The operator shall ensure so far as is reasonably practicable that the rules for the use of the ropes course are complied with (according to EN 15567-1:2015, Annex B).

6.2 Safety instructions**6.2.1 General**

Before commencing an activity, participants shall be informed of the safety instructions. These safety instructions shall be documented.

6.2.2 Collective safety systems

The level of training and the information provided to participants shall be determined by the operator's risk assessment.

6.2.3 Safety instructions for individual safety systems categories A to E

For all ropes courses this information shall include:

- a) an explanation of the ropes course and risks of serious injury which have been identified in the operator's risk assessment. These might not be limited to the safety system;
- b) identification of instructors and how and when to communicate with them;

- c) an explanation that at any time any participant shall be within range of sight of either an instructor or an adult participant ;
- d) action to be taken in event of an accident;
- e) action to be taken where a participant requires assistance;
- f) explanation and demonstration of the correct use of the equipment (PPE);
- g) explanation of any marking placed at the start of every course;
- h) explanation of any marking placed at the beginning of every element.

6.2.4 Additional requirements for categories A to C

In addition for ropes courses using safety systems categories A to C this information should include:

- a) information about practical assessment;
- b) explanation of the safety instructions, especially the need to be always connected to the safety system by at least one connector;
- c) explanation of the responsibilities of a supervising adult.

For demonstrations, the same equipment (PPE) shall be used as used by the participants.

6.3 Assessment by instructors (standards.iteh.ai)

6.3.1 General

An assessment by any means (e.g. practical, oral or written) shall be carried out on the participant's understanding of the safety instructions.

6.3.2 Practical assessment for safety systems categories A to C

Participants shall practice the techniques required to use the safety system and their competence in using these techniques shall be assessed by an instructor. This assessment shall be undertaken without the participants being exposed to a significant risk of serious injury or death. The assessment shall include the operation of the safety systems used on the ropes course. Only those participants who pass the practical assessment shall progress onto the ropes course.

6.3.3 Practical assessment for safety systems categories D and E

Where participants are required to connect themselves to any safety system they shall be assessed in accordance with 6.3.2.

6.3.4 Active braking

If active braking by the participant is required (e.g. in a zip line), the correct braking technique shall be taught and assessed.

7 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

7.1 General

At the moment when the PPE is provided to participants, the PPE manufacturer's instructions and also the ropes course manufacturer's instructions and the requirements specified in this document shall be observed.