

AS/NZS 1891.4:2009

'Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices - Selection, use and maintenance'

Karza Pty Ltd welcomes the new edition of AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 'Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices - Selection, use and maintenance'. The updated standard was released in November 2009 by Standards Australia to replace (and improve) the now superseded AS/NZS 1891.4:2000. The new edition is in full alignment with the AS/NZS 1891.1:2007, 'Industrial Fall-arrest systems & devices – Harnesses and ancillary equipment'.

AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 specifies requirements and sets out recommendations for the selection, safe use and maintenance of industrial fall-arrest systems and devices based on the use of safety harnesses; horizontal life lines and rails; fall-arrest devices; and associated lanyards, connectors, anchorages and fittings.

The main variations to old AS/NZS 1891.4:2000 include:

1. 'Total restraint' has been removed from the scope of the Standard. Equipment provided solely for restraint purposes is no longer dealt with in the AS/NZS 1891 series of Standards.
2. The minimum allowable anchorage strength is now 12 kN or 15 kN dependant on fall distance.
3. New terminology for harnesses (full or lower body) and the positioning of fall-arrest attachment points.
4. In-service values for the extension of personal energy absorbers in fall situations.
5. Lower body harness use has been restricted to limited free fall and restrained fall.
6. Twin-tail lanyards are included.
7. Updated requirements for operator training and assessment (refer Appendix E '*guidance for the provision of training and competency*').
8. The term 'suspension trauma' has been changed to 'suspension intolerance (trauma)'.
9. A belt or waist strap alone, instead of a harness, is no longer permitted for any of the applications in the Standard to protect against a potential fall.

Copies of the documents are available for purchase from SAI-Global.

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