

§ 1926.958 External load helicopters.

In all operations performed using a rotorcraft for moving or placing external loads, the provisions of § 1926.551 of subpart N of this part shall be complied with.

§ 1926.959 Lineman's body belts, safety straps, and lanyards.

(a) *General requirements.* The requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be complied with for all lineman's body belts, safety straps and lanyards acquired for use after the effective date of this subpart.

(1) Hardware for lineman's body belts, safety straps, and lanyards shall be drop forged or pressed steel and have a corrosive resistive finish tested to American Society for Testing and Materials B117-64 (50-hour test). Surfaces shall be smooth and free of sharp edges.

(2) All buckles shall withstand a 2,000-pound tensile test with a maximum permanent deformation no greater than one sixty-fourth inch.

(3) D rings shall withstand a 5,000-pound tensile test without failure. Failure of a D ring shall be considered cracking or breaking.

(4) Snaphooks shall withstand a 5,000-pound tensile test without failure. Failure of a snaphook shall be distortion sufficient to release the keeper.

(b) *Specific requirements.* (1)(i) All fabric used for safety straps shall withstand an A.C. dielectric test of not less than 25,000 volts per foot "dry" for 3 minutes, without visible deterioration.

(ii) All fabric and leather used shall be tested for leakage current and shall not exceed 1 milliamperes when a potential of 3,000 volts is applied to the electrodes positioned 12 inches apart.

(iii) Direct current tests may be permitted in lieu of alternating current tests.

(2) The cushion part of the body belt shall:

(i) Contain no exposed rivets on the inside;

(ii) Be at least three (3) inches in width;

(iii) Be at least five thirty-seconds ($\frac{5}{32}$) inch thick, if made of leather; and

(iv) Have pocket tabs that extended at least $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches down and three (3) inches back of the inside of circle of each D ring for riveting on plier or tool

pockets. On shifting D belts, this measurement for pocket tabs shall be taken when the D ring section is centered.

(3) A maximum of four (4) tool loops shall be so situated on the body belt that four (4) inches of the body belt in the center of the back, measuring from D ring to D ring, shall be free of tool loops, and any other attachments.

(4) Suitable copper, steel, or equivalent liners shall be used around bar of D rings to prevent wear between these members and the leather or fabric enclosing them.

(5) All stitching shall be of a minimum 42-pound weight nylon or equivalent thread and shall be lock stitched. Stitching parallel to an edge shall not be less than three-sixteenths ($\frac{3}{16}$) inch from edge of narrowest member caught by the thread. The use of cross stitching on leather is prohibited.

(6) The keeper of snaphooks shall have a spring tension that will not allow the keeper to begin to open with a weight of $2\frac{1}{2}$ pounds or less, but the keeper of snaphooks shall begin to open with a weight of four (4) pounds, when the weight is supported on the keeper against the end of the nose.

(7) Testing of lineman's safety straps, body belts and lanyards shall be in accordance with the following procedure:

(i) Attach one end of the safety strap or lanyard to a rigid support, the other end shall be attached to a 250-pound canvas bag of sand:

(ii) Allow the 250-pound canvas bag of sand to free fall 4 feet for (safety strap test) and 6 feet for (lanyard test); in each case stopping the fall of the 250-pound bag:

(iii) Failure of the strap or lanyard shall be indicated by any breakage, or slippage sufficient to permit the bag to fall free of the strap or lanyard. The entire "body belt assembly" shall be tested using one D ring. A safety strap or lanyard shall be used that is capable of passing the "impact loading test" and attached as required in paragraph (b)(7)(i) of this section. The body belt shall be secured to the 250-pound bag of sand at a point to simulate the waist of a man and allowed to drop as stated in paragraph (b)(7)(ii) of this section.

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Failure of the body belt shall be indicated by any breakage, or slippage sufficient to permit the bag to fall free of the body belt.

§ 1926.960 Definitions applicable to this subpart.

(a) *Alive or live (energized)*. The term means electrically connected to a source of potential difference, or electrically charged so as to have a potential significantly different from that of the earth in the vicinity. The term "live" is sometimes used in place of the term "current-carrying," where the intent is clear, to avoid repetition of the longer term.

(b) *Automatic circuit recloser*. The term means a self-controlled device for automatically interrupting and reclosing an alternating current circuit with a predetermined sequence of opening and reclosing followed by resetting, hold closed, or lockout operation.

(c) *Barrier*. The term means a physical obstruction which is intended to prevent contact with energized lines or equipment.

(d) *Barricade*. The term means a physical obstruction such as tapes, screens, or cones intended to warn and limit access to a hazardous area.

(e) *Bond*. The term means an electrical connection from one conductive element to another for the purpose of minimizing potential differences or providing suitable conductivity for fault current or for mitigation of leakage current and electrolytic action.

(f) *Bushing*. The term means an insulating structure including a through conductor, or providing a passageway for such a conductor, with provision for mounting on a barrier, conducting or otherwise, for the purpose of insulating the conductor from the barrier and conducting current from one side of the barrier to the other.

(g) *Cable*. The term means a conductor with insulation, or a stranded conductor with or without insulation and other coverings (single-conductor cable) or a combination of conductors insulated from one another (multiple-conductor cable).

(h) *Cable sheath*. The term means a protective covering applied to cables.

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NOTE: A cable sheath may consist of multiple layers of which one or more is conductive.

(i) *Circuit*. The term means a conductor or system of conductors through which an electric current is intended to flow.

(j) *Communication lines*. The term means the conductors and their supporting or containing structures which are used for public or private signal or communication service, and which operate at potentials not exceeding 400 volts to ground or 750 volts between any two points of the circuit, and the transmitted power of which does not exceed 150 watts. When operating at less than 150 volts no limit is placed on the capacity of the system.

NOTE: Telephone, telegraph, railroad signal, data, clock, fire, police-alarm, community television antenna, and other systems conforming with the above are included. Lines used for signaling purposes, but not included under the above definition, are considered as supply lines of the same voltage and are to be so run.

(k) *Conductor*. The term means a material, usually in the form of a wire, cable, or bus bar suitable for carrying an electric current.

(l) *Conductor shielding*. The term means an envelope which encloses the conductor of a cable and provides an equipotential surface in contact with the cable insulation.

(m) *Current-carrying part*. The term means a conducting part intended to be connected in an electric circuit to a source of voltage. Non-current-carrying parts are those not intended to be so connected.

(n) *Dead (deenergized)*. The term means free from any electrical connection to a source of potential difference and from electrical charges: Not having a potential difference from that of earth.

NOTE: The term is used only with reference to current-carrying parts which are sometimes alive (energized).

(o) *Designated employee*. The term means a qualified person delegated to perform specific duties under the conditions existing.

(p) *Effectively grounded*. The term means intentionally connected to earth through a ground connection or connections of sufficiently low impedance and having sufficient current-carrying