Australian/New Zealand Standard™

Code of practice for bungy jumping

Standards Australia

STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

This Joint Australian/New Zealand Standard was prepared by Joint Technical Committee SF/44, Bungy Jumping. It was approved on behalf of the Council of Standards Australia on 31 July 2000 and on behalf of the Standards Council of New Zealand on 22 February 2000. It was published on 19 October 2000.

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Detailed information about joint Australian/New Zealand Standards can be found by visiting the Standards Australia web site at www.standards.com.au or Standards New Zealand web site at www.standards.co.nz and looking up the relevant Standard in the on-line catalogue.

Alternatively, both organizations publish an annual printed Catalogue with full details of all current Standards. For more frequent listings or notification of revisions, amendments and withdrawals, Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand offer a number of update options. For information about these services, users should contact their respective national Standards organization.

We also welcome suggestions for improvement in our Standards, and especially encourage readers to notify us immediately of any apparent inaccuracies or ambiguities. Please address your comments to the Chief Executive of either Standards Australia International or Standards New Zealand at the address shown on the back cover.

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PREFACE

This Standard is issued as a joint Standard under the terms of the Active Co-operation Agreement between Standards Australia and Standards New Zealand. It has been extensively modified since it was first released in 1992. Modifications include a more practicable testing regime for bungy cords and attachments, and also changes to reflect experience gained by operators over the last 7 years.

Where appropriate, dual clauses are used. These clauses commencing with either the words, "In New Zealand:" or, "In Australia:", indicate requirements deemed necessary for one country only.

Bungy jumping is a new form of recreation. In 1989, and the beginning of 1990, three incidents occurred in New Zealand when bungy jumping resulted in serious injury. The risk of injury to themselves and to the public was recognized by the operators. Through the New Zealand Bungy Jumping Federation they requested that a Code of Practice be developed with the objective and purpose of controlling the risks, and to ensure the safety of the public and operators.

It is accepted within our present society that opportunities for people to experience a thrilling activity are provided. Where there is a potential for injury or death, then control of the risk is essential. This Code provides the standards on which to base the management of the inherent risks. The Code itself will not control the risks involved. This depends on compliance with the Code by each and every operator.

This Code follows a logical sequence in its layout, starting with an operator opening a new site that requires approval from various authorities depending on the site and the nature of the equipment used.

There are several ways of operating bungy jumping. The jumper can arrive at the jump point as a pedestrian, or by being lifted up to the jump point by helicopter, by crane or other lifting appliance, or the jumper may be propelled from the ground by an extended bungy used as a catapult.

In Australia the types of bungy jumping permitted in each State and Territory varies. Operators should check with the appropriate regulatory authority as to the type of bungy jumping permitted and the applicability of this Standard.

There are at present two types of platform used. Static platforms are attached to a permanent structure (e.g. a bridge) or located on the ground. Mobile platforms are attached to a lifting appliance (e.g. crane). There is also the use of a heli-platform (i.e. using a helicopter as a platform for jumping). This Standard recognizes the different safety considerations of jumping over land or water and makes provisions for both types of operations.

The preparation, testing and checking of equipment precedes any operation and each day's operation. Similarly staff selection and training is essential before public operation begins. The Standard provides the framework for the operating procedures. Sites and equipment vary greatly, so each site will require its own operating manual. The content and standards required in the operating manual are set out in the Standard. The risk of serious injury makes provision for emergency procedures essential.

In operations of this kind, standards need to be set and complied with in the early stages of operation. It is easy for complacency and lower standards to become normal when the operation is proceeding without undesired incidents occurring. This must be guarded against.

The use of dynamic loads in the calculation of the safe working load of platforms will be considered at the next revision of the Standard.

The term "informative" is used in this Standard to define the application of the appendix to which it applies. An "informative" appendix is only for information and guidance.

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RELATED DOCUMENTS

NEW ZEALAND STANDARDS

NZS 4121:1985	Code of practice for design for access and use of buildings and facilities by disabled persons
NZS 7702:1989	Colours for identification, coding and special purposes

AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS

AS 1418	Cranes (including hoists and winches) (known as the SAA Crane Code)
AS 1418.10 -1996	Elevating work platforms
AS 1735 (Set)	Lifts, escalators and moving walks (known as the SAA Lift Code)
AS 2550 (Set)	Cranes – Safe use
AS 3533 (Set)	Amusement rides and devices

JOINT AUSTRALIAN/NEW ZEALAND STANDARDS

AS/NZS 1891	Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices
Part 1:1995	Safety belts and harnesses

BRITISH STANDARDS

BS 903	Physical testing of rubber
Part A2:1995	Method for determination of tensile stress-strain properties
BS 2902:1985	Specification. Higher tensile chain slings and rings, links alternative to rings, egg links and intermediate links
BS 2903:1980	Higher tensile steel hooks for chains, slings, blocks and general engineering purposes
BS 3551:1962	Alloy steel shackles
BS 4942:1981	Short link chain for lifting purposes
BS 6405:1984	Non-calibrated short link steel chain (grade 30) for general engineering purposes: class 1 and 2.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

New Zealand Department of Labour. Code of Practice – Cranes and Lifting Appliances 1985. Department of Labour, Safety in Construction No. 24, and its accepted Standards for Lifting Gear as listed below:

New Zealand Department of Labour publication, Safe Access 1992
New Zealand Civil Aviation Adventure Rules Pt 115.

The users of this Standard should ensure that their copies of the above-mentioned Standards and referenced overseas Standards are the latest revisions or include the latest amendments. Such amendments are listed in the annual Standards New Zealand Catalogue which is supplemented by lists contained in the monthly magazine Standards issued free of charge to committee and subscribing members of Standards New Zealand.

In Australia, the amendments are listed in the annual Standards Australia Catalogue, and supplemented by lists contained in the monthly magazine The Australian Standard.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA/STANDARDS NEW ZEALAND

Australian/New Zealand Standard
Code of practice for bungy jumping

Part 1: SITE AND OPERATING APPROVAL, SITE AND EQUIPMENT DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND TESTING

101 SCOPE

This Standard specifies and gives guidance on the site and site approval, the design, testing and approval of equipment, the management of the operation, the operating procedures, the emergency provisions and procedures, registration of operating staff, certification and audit of a bungy jumping operation.

102 INTERPRETATION

102.1
For the purposes of this Standard, the word "shall" refers to practices which are mandatory for compliance with the Standard. The word "should" refers to practices which are advised or recommended.

102.2
In this Standard the term 'bungy jumping' includes and refers to catapult, static, helicopter and mobile platform jumping facilities.

102.3
This Standard is applicable to all operators of bungy jumping whether for development, demonstration, private or public use.

103 REFERENCES

The full titles of reference documents, cited in this Standard are given in the list of Related Documents immediately preceding Part 1 of this Standard.

104 DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Standard the following definitions shall apply:

APPROVING AUTHORITY. The body or person who has the authority to issue permissions, directions, registrations or approvals, with the force of law.

ANCHORAGE POINT. A secure point of attachment on a structure to which a landyard assembly or restraint line may be secured.

BINDING – ANKLE. Material used to wrap and hold together the jumper's ankles. The binding is tied together and attached to the bungy cord.