Dropped Objects Prevention Solutions: 5 Facts About ANSI/ISEA 121-2023

The ANSI/ISEA 121 - 2023 standard is designed specifically to address the risks associated with dropped objects in the workplace. This standard sets the bar for designing, testing, and evaluating the performance of active systems that prevent dropped objects in the workplace. It was created to provide clear guidance on the use of these active prevention systems, ensuring that the tools and equipment used are effective and reliable in keeping everyone safe.

ANSI/ISEA 121 - 2023 focuses on equipment used to tether and contain hand tools, components, structures, and other items that could fall from heights.

1 It’s All About Safety Gear for Tethering and Containers

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2 This is the New and Approved Version

The 2023 edition is the second iteration of the ANSI/ISEA 121 standard. Building on the original, it incorporates updated research and feedback from industry professionals to enhance safety measures and provide more comprehensive solutions for preventing dropped objects.

WHAT DOES IT DO? The requirements of this standard establish a clear and formal definition of what constitutes a proper tethering system, moving away from makeshift solutions like duct tape and string.

WHAT DOES IT NOT DO? This standard does not dictate how workers should use the equipment or specify what items need to be tethered and when. Proper usage guidelines are provided by the equipment manufacturer, while decisions on what and when to tether are determined by company policies or regulatory bodies.
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3 Four categories of equipment are covered

The standard categorizes equipment into four main types:

- **Anchor Attachments**
- **Tool Attachments**
- **Tool Tethers**
- **Containers**

4 Voluntary Standard, but OSHA Says It’s a Must

While following the ANSI/ISEA 121 - 2023 standard is voluntary, OSHA requires employers to address falling/dropping objects hazards on the job (See sections 1910.23; 1910.28 of the OSHA General Industry Standard and sections 1926.451; 1926.501; 1926.759 of the OSHA Construction Standard).

Sticking to this standard is a smart way to meet OSHA’s rules and show that you’re serious about keeping everyone safe on the job.

5 The Only Standard of Its Kind Worldwide

The ANSI/ISEA 121 - 2023 isn’t just a national guideline; it’s the only global standard dedicated to stopping dropped objects. This makes it a unique and essential tool for anyone looking to set the highest safety benchmarks and lead the way in workplace safety, and it highlights the US’s leadership in setting safety benchmarks for industries worldwide.
Scan for more about preventing dropped objects