

# CSA Personal Energy Absorbers & Lanyards **Standards Update**



White Paper CSA Z259.11-2017

The Canadian Standards Association (CSA) has developed a new standard that will supersede the existing requirements of the "CSA Z259.11-2005 Energy Absorbers and Lanyards" standard. The new standard, Z259.11-2017 "Personal Energy Absorbers and Lanyards", was published in January 2017 with an effectivity date of February 1, 2020.

Any applicable product manufactured by MSA on or after the February 1, 2020 date will be compliant to the new standard. Prior equipment may remain in service as long as it passes inspection criteria. Equipment in distribution channels, but not yet in service, will be grandfathered in.

## CSA Z259.11-2017 "Personal Energy Absorbers and Lanyards"

**This standard focuses on design, testing, and marking requirements for manufactured energy-absorbing lanyards and restraint lanyards.**

### Key changes from Z259.11-2005 to Z259.11-2017

- The energy absorber classifications "E4" and "E6" have been removed. Weight capacity is no longer standardized by CSA. It is now defined by the manufacturer based on energy absorber design. User weight capacities may vary for different manufacturers.
- New design requirements have been added for the dynamic performance of energy absorbers (performance factor, deceleration force, and deceleration factor). The new requirements ensure that fall forces are more effectively reduced for users within their respective range.
- A new lanyard class, Class Y, (also referred to as twin-leg) has been added.
- Some label markings have changed (ex. weight range) and some new markings (ex. deceleration factor) have been added.

### How does this change impact MSA product?

- MSA will offer a variety of CSA-compliant energy-absorbing and restraint lanyards for different industry applications including: standard, tie-back, welding, utility, and leading-edge.
- MSA's new CSA energy-absorbing lanyard offering will no longer be referred to as "E4" or "E6". The new offering will have three weight capacity ranges which are better suited for the intended user weight. They will cover user weights between 110 lb. – 400 lb. (50 kg – 181 kg). For further detail on the different weight capacity ranges, please refer to the V-SERIES Energy-Absorbing Lanyards Conversion Guide available on [MSAsafety.com](http://MSAsafety.com).
- Energy absorber label markings will be updated to include "deceleration factor". This value is used to approximate the amount of deployment a user can expect based on their weight. For more information on deployment distance, please refer to the user instructions.



Note: This Bulletin contains only a general description of the products shown. While uses and performance capabilities are described, under no circumstances shall the products be used by untrained or unqualified individuals and not until the product instructions including any warnings or cautions provided have been thoroughly read and understood. Only they contain the complete and detailed information concerning proper use and care of these products.

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