



Brief Summary of IS 3521 (Part 9) : 2021 Personal Fall Arrest Systems — Specification

A **Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS)** is a critical safety system designed to protect workers from falling during work activities at height. PFAS are used in various industries, including **construction, maintenance, and rescue operations**, to prevent injury or death resulting from falls.

A PFAS typically includes several components working together to stop or arrest a fall in the event of a slip, trip, or loss of balance. Properly designed, installed, and maintained, a PFAS helps ensure that a worker can safely return to a secure position without sustaining injury.

In the context of personal fall arrest systems (PFAS), Part 9 of IS 3521 typically deals with the specification and use of **Descending Devices**. These devices are an essential component when a worker needs to descend from heights in a controlled and safe manner, especially in situations where a **traditional fall arrest system** (such as a lanyard or lifeline) cannot provide an effective means for controlled descent.

Descending devices, as outlined in various safety regulations (like those from **OSHA, ANSI**, and other relevant bodies), must adhere to specific standards to ensure they provide a safe, efficient, and secure descent mechanism.

This Indian Standard specifies requirements, test methods, marking and information to be supplied by the manufacturer for descending devices. It also specifies some basic requirements for the descent lines to be used with the descending devices.

This Indian Standard is applicable to **automatic** and **manually** operated descending devices intended for use in the workplace in access, egress, work positioning and rescue systems. Various types and classes of descending devices are defined according to **function** and **performance**. These descending devices can be used in situations other than the workplace if adequate training and/or supervision are provided.

Next time you purchase PFAS, look for the BIS mark to ensure they meet these standards to prevent accidents and injuries.