

Technical Bulletin: DT100001 Rev.A 2025.01.06

Compatibility of Fall Protection Components

[OSHA 29 CFR 1926.502 Subpart M Appendix C](#) Section II (c) states:

(c) *Component compatibility considerations.* Ideally, a personal fall arrest system is designed, tested, and supplied as a complete system. However, it is common practice for lanyards, connectors, lifelines, deceleration devices, body belts and body harnesses to be interchanged since some components wear out before others. The employer and employee should realize that not all components are interchangeable. For instance, a lanyard should not be connected between a body belt (or harness) and a deceleration device of the self-retracting type since this can result in additional free fall for which the system was not designed. Any substitution or change to a personal fall arrest system should be fully evaluated or tested by a competent person to determine that it meets the standard, before the modified system is put in use.

Compatibility of manufacturer's equipment is also outlined in ANSI Z359.6-2016 section 4 paragraph 4.2.2:

Compatibility. All directly connected components of an active fall protection system shall be compatible, such that they perform as intended and cannot unintentionally disengage on their own during the use of the system or during a fall event. Equipment and hardware for all components of an active fall protection system shall be specified to provide compatible connections. Combining equipment from different manufacturers is permitted as long as the components are compatible.

Since there are no statements by OSHA or ANSI prohibiting the mixing of manufactures fall arrest products, DFP Safety approves DEWALT Fall Protection products to be combined with other brands of personal fall arrest products, subject to a "Competent Person" review by the employer or user to verify component compatibility and to approve compliance of the assembled system with applicable standards and requirements for such systems.