



**CSA Z1009:22**  
National Standard of Canada



# Management of work at heights



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# Preface

This is the first edition of CSA Z1009, *Management of work at heights*.

It is based on the Plan-Do-Check-Act model set out in CSA Z45001, and it is designed to link CSA Group's existing work-at-heights and fall-protection Standards with Canadian Standards on occupational health and safety management.

The purpose of this Standard is to address the application of occupational health and safety management systems (OHSMS) to activities where a fall hazard exists. CSA Z1009 is the latest addition to the CSA Z1000 series of OHSMS Standards. It is designed to be used within an OHSMS in conjunction with the other Standards in the CSA Z1000 series.

This Standard was developed by CSA Group with funding support provided by the Canadian Association of Administrators of Labour Law — Occupational Safety and Health (CAALL-OSH), including provincial and territorial governments, as well as the Government of Canada. CSA Group is solely responsible for the content of this Standard, and CSA Group and the funding bodies disclaim any liability in connection with the use of the information contained herein.

This Standard was prepared by the Technical Committee on Management of Work at Heights, under the jurisdiction of the Strategic Steering Committee on Occupational Health and Safety, and has been formally approved by the Technical Committee.

This Standard has been developed in compliance with Standards Council of Canada requirements for National Standards of Canada. It has been published as a National Standard of Canada by CSA Group.

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# CSA Z1009:22

## *Management of work at heights*

### 0 Introduction

#### 0.1 General

Falls from heights, falls down inclines, and falls into shafts/holes remain the second-highest cause of serious work-related injuries across Canada. Strains, sprains, and stumbles while ascending or descending access devices (ladders, scaffolds, temporary stairways, etc.) are also major causes of injury (see CSA Group Research Report RP0069). Objects falling from elevated work areas continue to be high-risk hazards for personnel located below or walking below the worksite. Rescue of workers trapped or injured at heights continues to be a significant challenge for many types of work at heights (WAH).

Even with the introduction of remote, robotic, and autonomous inspection and repair devices, manual labour and human inspection activities at heights and near precipices will continue to be in high demand for the foreseeable future.

Clause [0](#) provides background on the need to treat work at heights as a special hazard category within an occupational health and safety management system (OHSMS). It also establishes the relationship between this Standard and the many other related CSA Group occupational health and safety (OHS) Standards.

#### 0.2 Purpose of this Standard

The purpose of this Standard is to address the application of OHSMS to programs and procedures to work at heights where a fall hazard is determined to exist.

This Standard provides

- a) an overview of the steps an organization needs to take to establish and maintain an effective WAH management program;
- b) requirements for workers assigned to work at heights and for persons responsible for ensuring the safety of such workers; and
- c) requirements for emergency preparedness and rescue.

This Standard is consistent with CSA Z45001 in that it is intended to help users integrate their WAH management program into an organization's existing OHSMS. Like CSA Z45001, this Standard is organized into clauses based on the Plan-Do-Check-Act model. In addition, this Standard is designed to be consistent with OHS legislation in all Canadian federal, provincial, and territorial jurisdictions.

#### 0.3 Content of this Standard

Clause [4](#) specifies general requirements for a management system that will provide the basis for a comprehensive WAH management program.

Clauses [5](#) to [8](#) specify requirements for planning and implementing a WAH management program. Clause [5](#) specifies roles and responsibilities. Clause [6](#) specifies requirements for hazard identification and risk assessment, development of procedures for safe access and travel, emergency response planning, and assessment of worker capability for performing assigned duties when working at heights.