

<b>Title</b>	<b>Prepare an emergency rescue plan and perform a rescue to recover a suspended individual after a fall in a work context</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– evaluate emergency rescue methods for a suspended individual in a work context;</li> <li>– prepare an emergency rescue plan to recover a suspended individual in a work context; and</li> <li>– perform an emergency rescue of a suspended individual in a simulated environment under supervision.</li> </ul>
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<b>Classification</b>	Lifting Equipment > Industrial Rope Access
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<b>Available grade</b>	Achieved
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<b>Prerequisites</b>	Unit standard 23229, <i>Use safety harness system when working at height</i> , or demonstrate equivalent knowledge and skills.
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### Guidance Information

- 1 This unit standard has been developed for learning and assessment on-job or off-job in a simulated environment.
- 2 All tasks must be carried out in accordance with the best practice guidelines for working at height in New Zealand (2019) by Worksafe and all subsequent amendments or replacements based on:
  - a quality management systems;
  - b designer's requirements and manufacturers' operating instructions; and government and local government legislation, regulations, bylaws, Health and Safety at work Act 2015 and all subsequent amendments or replacements
  - c Scaffolding in New Zealand good practice guidelines available at <http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/information-guidance/all-guidance-items/scaffolding-best-practice-guideline-for-scaffolding-in-new-zealand>, and all subsequent amendments and replacements; ANZCOR Guideline 9.1.5 – First Aid Management of Harness Suspension Trauma available from <https://www.resus.org.nz/healthcare-resources/guidelines/?id=5>; AS/NZS 1891.1:2020 *Personal Equipment for Work at Height, Part 1: Manufacturing requirements for full body combination and lower body harnesses*; AS/NZS 1891.2: 2001 *Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices – Part 2: Horizontal lifeline and rail systems*; AS/NZS 1891.3:2020 *Personal equipment for work at height, Part 3: Fall-arrest devices*;

AS/NZS 1891.4:2009 *Industrial fall-arrest systems and devices – Part 4: Selection, use and maintenance.*

New Zealand Standards are available from <http://www.standards.co.nz>.

### 3 Definitions

*Company requirements* include the policy, procedures, and methodologies of the company. They include legislative and regulatory requirements which may apply across the company or to a specific site. Requirements are documented in the company's health and safety plans, contract work programmes, quality assurance programmes, policies, and procedural documents.

*Rescue plan*: a realistic strategy to deal with a fall arrest incident that ensures the rapid recovery of a person suspended in a harness. For the purposes of this unit standard it is intended that the plan developed will achieve the recovery of a suspended individual in order to minimise suspension trauma.

*Suspension trauma*: a condition reported to affect people suspended in a harness for a prolonged period, which may result in loss of consciousness or death.

4 This unit standard is intended primarily for use in established operating and maintenance environments in industry and is designed to be most applicable to those involved in organising and working in rescue teams responsible for the retrieval of individuals suspended in a safety harness after a fall.

5 The intention of this unit standard is to evaluate a range of rescue methods and consider and prepare for worst-case scenarios in managing risks of falls. Prevention strategies should always be the priority, but accidents and recovery planned for nevertheless.

6 This unit standard is intended for supervisory and management personnel who have responsibility for others working at height and a good knowledge of the particular working environment and workplace procedures and circumstances.

7 It is intended that the rescue plan developed will be specific for a particular workplace within an industry setting and targeted to a specific operational environment.

### 8 Assessment

This unit standard requires a rescue plan to be 'tested'. This may be done by use of drills, scenarios, mock-ups or other appropriate active means. However, personal safety of everyone involved must remain paramount. If safety requirements are not met the assessment must stop and the candidate will be assessed as not yet competent.

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## Outcomes and performance criteria

### Outcome 1

Evaluate emergency rescue methods for a suspended individual in a work context.

**Performance criteria**

1.1 Evaluate retrieval possibilities from above and below the suspended individual.

Range includes but is not limited to – work environment, availability of equipment, probable deployment time of rescue strategies, skill level and safety of rescuers.

1.2 Evaluate medical requirements of the suspended individual.

Range includes but is not limited to – suspension trauma recovery strategies, first aid, emergency services.

1.3 Determine retrieval strategies in accordance with industry best practice.

**Outcome 2**

Prepare an emergency rescue plan to recover a suspended individual in a work context.

**Performance criteria**

2.1 Create a rescue plan.

Range includes but is not limited to – retrieval strategies, roles and responsibilities of those involved, expectations of activity timing, specific locations, procedures for ensuring the safety of the rescuer, procedural checks, pre-rigged rescue systems.

2.2 Confirm the plan meets industry best practice for rescue.

2.3 Determine resource requirements for the fall recovery rescue plan.

Range includes but is not limited to – certification and/or training needs of those undertaking the rescue, availability and compliance status of specialist rescue equipment, availability of those designated to achieve a timely rescue.

2.4 Communicate the plan.

Range includes but is not limited to – those working to the rescue plan, those designated to offer medical assistance.

2.5 Retain documentation for confirmation and audit purposes.

**Outcome 3**

Perform an emergency rescue of a suspended individual in a simulated environment under supervision.

**Performance criteria**

3.1 Audit the rescue plan compliance with changing workplace conditions and relevant documents.

Range documents may include but are not limited to – site safety plan, fall-arrest equipment logs, manufacturer’s instructions, company requirements and workplace procedures.

3.2 Test the rescue plan under supervision.

Range includes but is not limited to – simulated emergency rescue in a range of work contexts.

3.3 Identify, record, and adjust deficiencies in the plan.

<b>Planned review date</b>	31 December 2026
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**Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions**

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	25 July 2007	31 December 2016
Review	2	22 May 2009	31 December 2016
Review	3	20 May 2011	31 December 2016
Review	4	16 July 2015	31 December 2024
Review	5	29 September 2022	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0003
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**Comments on this unit standard**

Please contact Waihanga Ara Rau Construction and Infrastructure Workforce Development Council [qualifications@WaihangaAraRau.nz](mailto:qualifications@WaihangaAraRau.nz) if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.