



**NSAI**  
Standards

Irish Standard  
I.S. EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020

# Sports and recreational facilities - Ropes courses - Part 1: Construction and safety requirements

**I.S. EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020**

*Incorporating amendments/corrigenda/National Annexes issued since publication:*

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NSAI  
1 Swift Square,  
Northwood, Santry  
Dublin 9

T +353 1 807 3800  
F +353 1 807 3838  
E standards@nsai.ie  
W NSAI.ie

Sales:  
T +353 1 857 6730  
F +353 1 857 6729  
W standards.ie

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## National Foreword

I.S. EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020 is the adopted Irish version of the European Document EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020, Sports and recreational facilities - Ropes courses - Part 1: Construction and safety requirements

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**EUROPEAN STANDARD**  
**NORME EUROPÉENNE**  
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**Sports and recreational facilities - Ropes courses - Part 1:**  
**Construction and safety requirements**

Structures de sport et d'activités de plein air - Parcours  
acrobatiques en hauteur - Partie 1 : Exigences de  
construction et de sécurité

Sport- und Freizeitanlagen - Seilgärten - Teil 1:  
Konstruktion und sicherheitstechnische  
Anforderungen

This European Standard was approved by CEN on 12 March 2015 and includes Amendment 1 approved by CEN on 11 November 2019.

CEN members are bound to comply with the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations which stipulate the conditions for giving this European Standard the status of a national standard without any alteration. Up-to-date lists and bibliographical references concerning such national standards may be obtained on application to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre or to any CEN member.

This European Standard exists in three official versions (English, French, German). A version in any other language made by translation under the responsibility of a CEN member into its own language and notified to the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre has the same status as the official versions.

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**CEN-CENELEC Management Centre: Rue de la Science 23, B-1040 Brussels**

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## European foreword

This document (EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 136 “Sports, playground and other recreational facilities and equipment”, the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This European Standard shall be given the status of a national standard, either by publication of an identical text or by endorsement, at the latest by August 2020, and conflicting national standards shall be withdrawn at the latest by August 2020.

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. CEN shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights.

This document includes amendment 1, approved by CEN on 11 November 2019.

This document supersedes A1 EN 15567-1:2015. A1

The start and finish of text introduced or altered by amendment is indicated in the text by tags A1 A1.

EN 15567 consists of the following parts, under the general title, *Sports- and recreational facilities — Ropes courses*:

- *Part 1: Construction and safety requirements*;
- *Part 2: Operation requirements*.

The main changes to EN 15567-1:2007 are:

- a) terms and definitions revised (Clause 3);
- b) requirements for wire ropes revised (4.2.4);
- c) new clause for synthetic ropes included (4.2.5);
- d) influence of loads revised (4.3.2);
- e) requirements for trees revised (4.3.3.3);
- f) requirements for zip lines revised (4.3.4.2);
- g) requirements for safety systems revised (4.3.5);
- h) requirements for personal protective equipment revised in accordance with existing standards (4.4);
- i) requirements for inspection and maintenance revised (Clause 7);
- j) Annex A revised;
- k) Annex B deleted;

**EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020 (E)**

- l) new Annex C “Relevance of ISO 4309:2010 to EN 15567-1 for ropes courses” added;
- m) correction of editorial errors.

According to the CEN/CENELEC Internal Regulations, the national standards organizations of the following countries are bound to implement this European Standard: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of North Macedonia, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.



## **Introduction**

Ropes courses vary considerably and may be used for educational, recreational, training or therapeutic purposes.

Ropes course activities involve risks that should be managed by the manufacturers and operators. This is achieved through careful design, manufacture, supervision, training, instruction, information etc.

Ropes course activities should only be undertaken by those who are physically and mentally able to comply with the safety requirements specified by the operator.

The various safety devices (for protection against falling from a height and collisions) consist of equipment designed to limit the consequences of falls or collisions. There are inherent risks associated with ropes courses. These risks should, however, be appropriately managed and reduced to an acceptable level by the ropes course operator. However, it should be understood that such risks cannot be eliminated altogether. It should be noted that no safety system can prevent deliberate misuse.

On the basis of a risk assessment, that takes into account the manufacturer's manual, operators should take reasonably practicable measures to ensure the safety of participants and staff. This means that the degree of risks in a particular job/work place/facility need to be balanced against the time, trouble, cost, benefits and physical difficulty of taking measures to avoid or reduce the risk.

Ropes course operators should also consider EN 15567-2, when carrying out risk assessments.

**EN 15567-1:2015+A1:2020 (E)****1 Scope**

This European Standard applies to permanent and mobile ropes courses and their components.

This European Standard specifies safety requirements for the design, construction, inspection and maintenance of ropes courses and their components.

This European Standard does not apply to temporary ropes courses (see 3.3) and children's play grounds (see EN 1176 all parts).

For the use of ropes courses EN 15567-2 applies.

**2 Normative references**

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 335, *Durability of wood and wood-based products - Use classes: definitions, application to solid wood and wood-based products*

EN 350-2:1994, *Durability of wood and wood-based products — Natural durability of solid wood — Part 2: Guide to natural durability and treatability of selected wood species of importance in Europe*

EN 351-1:2007, *Durability of wood and wood-based products - Preservative-treated solid wood - Part 1: Classification of preservative penetration and retention*

EN 358, *Personal protective equipment for work positioning and prevention of falls from a height - Belts and lanyards for work positioning or restraint*

EN 361, *Personal protective equipment against falls from a height - Full body harnesses*

EN 636, *Plywood — Specifications*

EN 813, *Personal fall protection equipment - Sit harnesses*

EN 1176-1, *Playground equipment and surfacing - Part 1: General safety requirements and test methods*

EN 12277, *Mountaineering equipment — Harnesses — Safety requirements and test methods*

EN 12927-6, *Safety requirements for cableway installations designed to carry persons — Ropes — Part 6: Discard criteria*

EN 13411-1, *Terminations for steel wire ropes — Safety — Part 1: Thimbles for steel wire rope slings*

EN 13411-2, *Terminations for steel wire ropes — Safety — Part 2: Splicing of eyes for wire rope slings*

EN 13411-3:2004+A1:2008, *Terminations for steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 3: Ferrules and ferrule-securing*

EN 13411-4, *Terminations for steel wire ropes - Safety - Part 4: Metal and resin socketing*

EN 13411-5, *Terminations for steel wire ropes — Safety — Part 5: U-bolt wire rope grips*

EN 13411-6, *Terminations for steel wire ropes — Safety — Part 6: Asymmetric wedge socket*

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