
**Safety of machinery — Safety distances
to prevent hazard zones being reached by
upper and lower limbs**

*Sécurité des machines — Distances de sécurité empêchant les
membres supérieurs et inférieurs d'atteindre les zones dangereuses*



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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
Web www.iso.org

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

International Standards are drafted in accordance with the rules given in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2.

The main task of technical committees is to prepare International Standards. Draft International Standards adopted by the technical committees are circulated to the member bodies for voting. Publication as an International Standard requires approval by at least 75 % of the member bodies casting a vote.

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

ISO 13857 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 199, *Safety of machinery*.

This first edition of ISO 13857 cancels and replaces ISO 13852:1996 and ISO 13853:1998, of which it constitutes a technical revision. Annex A, giving guidance on how to use Tables 1 and 2 with intermediate values, has been added, and the former Annex A of ISO 13853 has become Annex B.

Introduction

This document is a type B standard as stated in ISO 12100-1.

The provisions of this document can be supplemented or modified by a type C standard.

For machines which are covered by the scope of a type C standard and which have been designed and built according to the provisions of that standard, the provisions of that type C standard take precedence over the provisions of this type B standard.

One method of eliminating or reducing risks caused by machinery is to make use of safety distances preventing hazard zones from being reached by the upper and lower limbs.

In specifying safety distances, a number of aspects have to be taken into consideration, such as

- reach situations occurring when machinery is being used,
- reliable surveys of anthropometric data, taking into account population groups likely to be found in the countries concerned,
- biomechanical factors, such as compression and stretching of parts of the body and limits of joint rotation,
- technical and practical aspects, and
- additional measures for particular groups of persons (e.g. persons with special needs), which could be required due to a deviation from the specified body dimensions.

Safety of machinery — Safety distances to prevent hazard zones being reached by upper and lower limbs

1 Scope

This International Standard establishes values for safety distances in both industrial and non-industrial environments to prevent machinery hazard zones being reached. The safety distances are appropriate for protective structures. It also gives information about distances to impede free access by the lower limbs (see 4.3).

This International Standard covers people of 14 years and older (the 5th percentile stature of 14 year olds is approximately 1 400 mm). In addition, for upper limbs only, it provides information for children older than 3 years (5th percentile stature of 3 year olds is approximately 900 mm) where reaching through openings needs to be addressed.

NOTE 1 Data for preventing lower limb access for children is not considered.

The distances apply when adequate safety can be achieved by distance alone. Because safety distances depend on size, there will be some people of extreme dimensions who will be able to reach hazard zones even when the requirements of this International Standard are complied with.

NOTE 2 These safety distances will not provide sufficient protection against certain hazards, for example, radiation and emission of substances. For such hazards, additional or other measures need to be taken.

The clauses of the International Standard covering lower limbs apply when access by the upper limbs is not foreseeable according to the risk assessment.

The safety distances are intended to protect those persons trying to reach hazard zones under the conditions specified (see 4.1.1).

NOTE 3 This International Standard is not intended to provide measures against reaching a hazard zone by climbing over.

2 Normative references

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

ISO 12100-1, *Safety of machinery — Basic concepts, general principles for design — Part 1: Basic terminology, methodology*