	CO-ORDINATION OF NOTIFIED BODIES **PPE Regulation 2016/425** **RECOMMENDATION FOR USE**	PPE-R/11.161 Version 1 Update: --

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Origin: Vertical Group 11 'Protection against Falls from a Height	☒ Vertical Group 01.10.2025 ☒ Horizontal Committee 31.01.2026 ☐ EU PPE Expert Group

Question related to ☒ PPE Regulation ☐ PPE Guidelines ☒ EN/prEN: EN 12275:2013 ☐ Other:

Article: Annex: Clause:

Key words:

Mountaineering connectors

Question:

How to perform the static minor axis tests on connectors?

Solution:

Follow EN 12275:2013 clause 5.3.2.1.4 with the following additions:

- The determination of the center line of the gate and of the middle of the opening can be defined in accordance with the manufacturer with the help of the CAD of the connector.
- The depth of the groove shall not exceed 2 mm on the body and shall not exceed 0,5 mm on the gate, as required in EN
- 362:2004. Clamps are preferable to ensure the location of the pin.
- If grooves are made, machined grooves are recommended for repeatability. The manufacturer could provide the sample with the machined grooves in accordance with the notified body.
- If a connector is certified class K and class T, the minor axis static strength is not required.

Note:

Referring to EN 12275:2013 clause 5.3.2.1.4: *"The loading direction shall be in accordance with Figure 10".*

Figure 10 indicates only some traditional designs of connectors. Lots of very different designs are now available. It is no more possible to define the loading direction with the help of Figure 10.