CAN/ULC 555:2009 (R2024)

Standard for Fire and Emergency Service Technical Rescue Ropes and Water Rescue Throw Ropes and Associated Equipment

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Copies of this National Standard of Canada may be ordered from ULC Standards.

CETTE NORME NATIONALE DU CANADA EST DISPONIBLE EN VERSIONS FRANÇAISE ET ANGLAISE

Standard for Fire and Emergency Service Technical Rescue Ropes and Water Rescue Throw Ropes and Associated Equipment, CAN/ULC 555

Third Edition, Dated November 1, 2009

Summary of Topics

This revision of CAN/ULC 555 dated July 11, 2024 is being issued to update the title page to reflect the reaffirmation of this Third Edition National Standard of Canada. No changes in requirements are involved.

Text that has been changed in any manner or impacted by ULSE's electronic publishing system is marked with a vertical line in the margin.

The requirements are substantially in accordance with Proposal(s) on this subject dated April 19, 2024.

PLEASE NOTE THAT CERTAIN CODES MAY REFER TO A SUPERSEDED VERSION OF THIS STANDARD. IN THOSE INSTANCES, THE RELEVANT VERSIONS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

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Standard for Fire and Emergency Service Technical Rescue Ropes and Water Rescue Throw Ropes and Associated Equipment

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This list represents the membership at the time the Committee balloted on the final text of this edition. Since that time, changes in the membership may have occurred.

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PREFACE

This is the Third Edition of the Standard for Fire and Emergency Service Technical Rescue Ropes and Water Rescue Throw Ropes and Associated Equipment, CAN/ULC 555.

This Edition of the Standard has been formally approved by the ULC Standards Committee on Fire Protection Equipment and Systems.

This Standard has been developed in compliance with the requirements of SCC for accreditation of a Standards Development Organization.

Only metric SI units of measurement are used in this Standard. If a value for measurement is followed by a value in other units in parentheses, the second value may be approximate. The first stated value is the requirement.

Appendices A and B, identified as Informative, are for information purposes only.

In Canada, there are two official languages, English and French. All safety warnings must be in French and English. Attention is drawn to the possibility that some Canadian authorities may require additional markings and/or installation instructions to be in both official languages.

This Third Edition National Standard of Canada is based on, and now supersedes, the Second Edition.

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

Requests for interpretation of this Standard should be sent to ULC Standards. The requests should be worded in such a manner as to permit a “yes” or “no” answer based on the literal text of the requirement concerned.

This CAN/ULC 555 Standard is under continuous maintenance, whereby each revision is approved in compliance with the requirements of SCC for accreditation of a Standards Development Organization. In the event that no revisions are issued for a period of four years from the date of publication, action to revise, reaffirm, or withdraw the standard shall be initiated.

Comments or proposals for revisions on any part of the Standard may be submitted at any time. Proposals should be submitted via a Proposal Request in the Collaborative Standards Development System (CSDS) at https://csds.ul.com.

This Standard is intended to be used for conformity assessment.

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1 SCOPE

1.1 These requirements apply to *technical rescue rope* and *water rescue throw rope*, and associated equipment used by rescue services.

1.2 Part A covers the requirements for *technical rescue rope* used by emergency services for the purpose of raising, lowering or horizontally moving a maximum of two people;

1.3 Part B covers the requirements for *body support devices* associated with technical rope, not including Class I *body support devices*;

1.4 Part C covers the requirements for *hardware* associated with technical rescue;

1.5 Part D covers the requirements for *water rescue throw ropes* used by rescue services for the purpose of securing or retrieving one person from *water*.

2 REFERENCED PUBLICATIONS

2.1 The documents shown below are referenced in the text of this Standard. Unless otherwise stated elsewhere in this Standard such references shall be considered to indicate the edition and/or revisions of the document available at the date on which the Committee approved this ULC Standard.

Documents Published by the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM)
100 Barr Harbour Drive, PO Box C700, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959 U.S.A
Telephone: (610) 832-9585
www.astm.org

• ASTM B117-07a, Standard Test Method of Salt Spray (Fog) Testing

• ASTM D276-00a, Standard Test Methods for Identification of Fibres in Textiles

3 GLOSSARY

Note: Terms used in this Standard that are in *italic* print are defined as follows:

BLOCK CREEL CONSTRUCTION – Rope constructed without knots or splices in the yarns, ply yarns, strands, braids, or the rope itself.

BODY SUPPORT DEVICE – Any device used to support the rescuer and possibly the victim during emergency service operations.

HARDWARE – All metal components covered by technical rescue. A type of auxiliary equipment that includes but is not limited to ascent devices, carabiners, decent control devices, pulleys, rings and snap links.

KERNMANTLE – Rope which consists of a braided sheath over a continuous parallel or stranded core.

LIFE SAFETY ROPE – Term used in reference to both *technical rescue rope* and *water rescue throw rope*. A compact but flexible, torsionally balanced, continuous structure of fibres produced from strands that are twisted, plaited or braided together, and that serve primarily to support a load or transmit a force from the point of origin to the point of applications.

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