



**Mountaineering and
Climbing Equipment**

**UIAA
128**

**'ENERGY ABSORBING
SYSTEMS'
For use on Vie Ferrate
(Klettersteig)**

Foreword

This UIAA Standard is only published in the English language version, which is the master text. For any validations in translation, the UIAA Safety Commission should be contacted via the UIAA Office in Bern, Switzerland.

UIAA Standards are the only 'globally recognized' standards for mountaineering equipments. In order to prevent multiplicity, the UIAA collaborates with its partner in standardization CEN; and bases UIAA standard 153 on the European Standard EN 958:2010. The EN Standards in turn are based on the original UIAA Standards, the first of their kind in the world. Additionally the UIAA publishes pictorials for each of the standards in a user-friendly way. This UIAA Standard 153 also has additional requirements over and above those in EN 958:2010.

Owing to copyright restrictions, this UIAA Standard does not state the full requirements of EN 958:2010 to which it refers. Hence it is necessary to obtain a copy of EN 958:2010. The procedure for purchasing the EN Standards is included at the end of the text of this standard. The UIAA Standards are reviewed at intervals to see whether they meet the latest technical requirements and revised if necessary.

The UIAA invites manufacturers of mountaineering and climbing equipment worldwide to become members of the UIAA Safety Commission as Safety Label Holders. Members can participate in discussions on standard requirements, test methods and revisions thereof (see the "General Regulations for the UIAA Safety Label").

A complete list of UIAA Standards for mountaineering and climbing equipment can be found on the UIAA website.

The UIAA Safety Commission, which is responsible for the UIAA Standards, expects that the corresponding EN Standard will be updated to include the additional requirements of the UIAA Standard.

The present standard is under review. More information can be found on the UIAA website and on articles:

http://www.theuiaa.org/news_389_Worldwide-warning-to-users-of-via-ferrata-sets

http://www.theuiaa.org/news_411_Safety-Commission-to-meet-in-February-over-via-ferrata-issue

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This concerns especially copying, microfilming and feeding and processing in electronic data systems.

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1. General Remarks on the UIAA Trademark and UIAA Label

- 1.1. The UIAA Trademark (see section 5.1.) is copyright protected internationally. The UIAA Label is only given to items of mountaineering and climbing equipment upon approval of prospective label holder's application from the UIAA.
- 1.2. The procedure to be followed by a manufacturer, when applying for a UIAA Label, is laid down in the "General Regulations for the UIAA Safety Label Certification".

2. Requirements for Energy Absorbing Systems (EAS) for Use on Vie Ferrate (Klettersteig)

- 2.1. The UIAA Label can only be granted for energy absorbing systems (EAS) which meet all the requirements of EN 958:2010 , with the following exception:
 - 2.1.1. No EN number required.
- 2.2. For the award of the UIAA Label, the following additional safety requirements shall be met:
 - 2.2.1. Design and construction
 - 2.2.1.1. Y-shape of the attachment lanyard (see Fig. 1)
 - Definition. An energy absorbing system (EAS) according to this standard must be capable of safely arresting a falling climber who is connected to an anchor (e.g. on a via ferrata) by at least two attachment points.

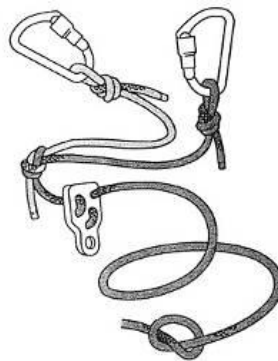


Fig 1. Sample of an Energy Absorbing System (EAS) according to this UIAA Standard

- Safety Requirement:
There shall be at least two attachment points intended for attachment to an anchor (e.g. on a via ferrata).
- Test Method:
Check by visual examination and by testing if necessary that the requirements according to 2.2.1.1. are met.

- 2.2.1.2. Storage temperature.
The minimum and maximum storage temperature shall be clearly specified in the information supplied by the manufacturer.



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2.2.1.3. Storage of the brake rope.

To reduce the danger of brake rope entanglement, it must be possible to stow the brake rope in a configuration suitable for deployment in the event of a fall

2.2.2. Wet test

2.2.2.1. Requirements:

when tested in accordance with 2.2.2.2., the system must not release the mass.

2.2.2.2. Test method.

Put a test sample in distilled water at room temperature for one hour. Test the wet sample according to 5.5.3 of EN 958:2010. The test shall be carried out within 5 minutes after removal of the water.

3. Demonstrating that the Requirements are met

- 3.1. The requirements of section 2.1 shall be satisfied by a test report from a UIAA-approved test laboratory.
- 3.2. The requirements of section 2.2.1 shall be satisfied by the manufacturer certifying on the Safety Label Test Template Form that the product meets this particular requirement.
- 3.3. The requirements of section 2.2.2 shall be satisfied by a test report from a UIAA-approved test laboratory.

4. Information to be supplied

- 4.1. The information to be supplied (in accordance with EN 958:2010) shall be given at least in the five official UIAA languages (English, French, German, Italian, Spanish) or alternatively in the language of the country in which the product is sold.

5. Attachment of the UIAA Label

- 5.1. For any model of mountaineering equipment, which has been awarded the UIAA Label, the UIAA recommends that the UIAA Trademark (see below) or the four letters "UIAA" be marked clearly and indelibly on each item sold in accordance with the branding guidelines specified in the "General regulations for UIAA Safety Label".



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- 5.2. In addition, the UIAA Trademark or the four letters "UIAA" may be included in the instructions for use and/or on a swing ticket as well as in catalogues and other publications of the manufacturer. In the last case, the illustration and/or the text must clearly apply only to the equipment which has been awarded the UIAA Label.



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Last Updated	Remarks
<i>March 8, 2013</i>	Update last EN 958 standard, suppression deployment position and corrections in point 3

Copies of the EN Standards can be purchased from the following:

Great Britain	British Standards Institution (BSI), Tel: +44 20 8996 9001 Order by Fax: +44 20 8996 7001 (with credit card details) by post: BSI Customer Services c/o Cash Office, PO Box 16206, London W4 4ZL (cash with order)
France:	Association Francaise de Normalisation (AFNOR), Serv. "Qualite de la Vie" (SQV), Tour Europe, F-92049 Paris La Défense CEDEX TEL: + 33 142 91 55 33 FAX: + 33 142 91 56 56
Germany:	Beuth-Verlag GmbH, Burggrafenstrasse 4-10, D-10787 Berlin TEL: +49 30 2601 2260 FAX: +49 30 2601 1260
Italy:	Ente Nazionale Italiano di Unificazione (UNI), Via Battistotti Sassi 11/b, I-20133 Milano TEL: +39 270 0241 FAX: +39 270 106 106
Spain:	Asociación Espanola de Normalización y Certificación (AENOR), Genova 6, E-28004 Madrid TEL: + 34 14 32 60 00 FAX: + 34 13 10 45 96
