

## NET SYSTEM TESTING AND INSPECTION



### Net Safety System Testing and Inspection

The personnel safety net is designed and constructed to minimize fall-arrest injuries sustained in the course of normal use when installed in accordance to these instructions.

Individually mounted personnel nets and inter-connected net systems must be tested and inspected on the job in the suspended position immediately following initial installation, relocation, or major repair, and, when left in one location, at six month intervals.

### On-Site Testing

The following testing requirements and methods are outlined in ANSI<sup>®</sup> publication A10.11.1989, American National Standard for Construction and Demolition Operations - Personnel and Debris Nets.

Personnel net systems shall be tested with a test weight dropped into the center of the net that is considered to be the weakest point of the system.

The age and condition of each net, and the arrangement of the supports, must be considered when determining the weakest point. In cases where reasonable doubt exists, the drop-test shall be conducted at each point considered to be potentially weak.

The drop test consists of dropping a 400-pound bag of sand into the center of the net, not more than 30 inches  $\pm$  2 inches in diameter and no more than 36 inches wide.

A tag line of sufficient strength is attached to the test weight should it penetrate the net. The tag line must not reduce the impact of the test weight during the drop-test.

The weight is to be free fall dropped from a height of 25 feet above the net, measured from the bottom of the weight (10,000 foot-pounds).

1. Bag of Sand, 400 lb, 30 x 36  $\pm$  2 inch.
2. Tag Line to bag of sand.
3. Drop-Test from height of 25 ft above net.
4. Impact Area is center of net or weakest point.

### Test Results

There shall be no penetration of the net, and no significant residual distortion of the net pattern or the suspension system. The bag of sand must be arrested within the net and not bounce.

**Testing Exception** - When the employer can demonstrate that a drop test is not feasible or practical, the net and the net installation shall be certified by a competent person<sup>1</sup> to be in compliance with all other provisions of installation, inspection and maintenance.

