



General Regulations for the UIAA Safety Label

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1 The UIAA Safety Label

- 1.1 The UIAA Safety Label Trademark is registered and copyright protected internationally.
- 1.2 The UIAA Safety Label can be awarded for mountaineering and climbing equipment such as ropes, connectors (karabiners), ice axes, crampons, helmets, etc., which meets the requirements of the relevant UIAA Safety Standard.
- 1.3 The symbol to be used for marking equipment is the UIAA Safety Label Trademark as shown here.



2 UIAA Safety Commission

- 2.1 The system for awarding UIAA Safety Labels for mountaineering and climbing equipment is administered by the UIAA Safety Commission.
- 2.2 Each National Member Association of the UIAA can nominate a representative to the UIAA Safety Commission. This representative will be known as the "National Delegate". The National Delegate has the voting right for this particular Member Association.
- 2.3 Four of the National Delegates are Technical Directors, normally for the areas as follows:
- (a) English speaking area
 - (b) French speaking area
 - (c) German speaking area
 - (d) Italian and/or Spanish speaking area
- 2.4 The UIAA considers manufacturers of mountaineering and climbing equipment as partners, who share the same goals as the UIAA Safety Commission i.e. the production of reliable mountaineering equipment. A "Manufacturer" is defined as a company or an organisation, which produces equipment, or has it manufactured to its own specification. A manufacturer, who becomes a member of the UIAA Safety Commission, is known as a "Trade Member".
- 2.5 A manufacturer, who has been awarded a UIAA Safety Label, automatically becomes a Trade Member. The Trade Member must pay an annual fee. The amount depends on the number of Safety Labels awarded.

- 2.6 With the consent of the UIAA Safety Commission President, a manufacturer, who is not a Trade Member, can attend the meetings of the UIAA Safety Commission as an observer by paying a fee of €500.00 for the current calendar year. The fee shall be paid before attending the meeting.
- 2.7 The quorum at a meeting of the UIAA Safety Commission shall be 50% of the total number of National Delegates, with a minimum of four National Delegates.
- 2.8 Trade Members have limited voting rights in the UIAA Safety Commission. Their voting rights apply only to technical matters relating to products and UIAA Safety Standards and not to matters relating to the UIAA Safety Commission generally, or to UIAA Safety Label organisation. However, if non-technical matters arise which would have a significant impact on Trade Members, for example changes in Label fees, the UIAA Safety Commission will consult the Trade Members before decisions are taken.
- 2.9 The following conditions apply to the voting rights:
- (a) Trade Members can only vote on matters relating to products in the category for which they hold one or more UIAA Safety Labels.
 - (b) Votes can only be exercised individually and proxies are not allowed.
 - (c) Trade Members collectively have a maximum of five votes but no more than 2/3 of the number of National Delegates present at the meeting. The choice, which Trade Members vote, is at their discretion.
 - (d) In case of dispute, the President of the UIAA Safety Commission shall decide.

3 Annual Fees

- 3.1 The initial fee shall be paid before the award of the first UIAA Safety Label. This fee covers the period up to the end of the calendar year. However, if the award of the first UIAA Safety Label is made after December 1st, the fee covers the period up to the end of the following calendar year.
- 3.2 The annual fee is €300.00 per Trade member and €10.00 per UIAA Safety Label.
- 3.3 For subsequent years, the Trade Member shall pay the annual fee in advance, upon receiving an invoice from the UIAA Safety Label Administrator. If the annual fee has not been paid two months after a reminder has been sent, the manufacturer ceases to be a Trade Member, and forfeits all UIAA Safety Labels from the start of the calendar year.
- 3.4 Payments shall be made directly to the UIAA in accordance with the procedure stated on the invoice.

4 Board of Approval

- 4.1 The Board of Approval is composed of:
- (a) the President of the UIAA Safety Commission who presides
 - (b) the UIAA Safety Label Administrator
 - (c) in case of dispute one of the other Technical Directors
 - (d) in case of legal questions the UIAA Jurist.

- 4.2 On the basis of the submitted documents the Board of Approval decides whether to award the UIAA Safety Label.
- 4.3 The Board of Approval shall withdraw an existing UIAA Safety Label if it is established that the product offered for sale under the UIAA Safety Label does not satisfy the requirements of the relevant UIAA Safety Standard. The withdrawn UIAA Safety Label will be removed from the list of current UIAA Safety Labels, published on the UIAA Website. Notice of such withdrawal may also be published on the UIAA website.
- 4.4 The decision of the Board of Approval must be unanimous. The Technical Directors not on the Board of Approval will act as the Board of Appeal.
- 4.5 Disputes relating to a UIAA Safety Label shall only be made public with the agreement of the Board of Approval.

5 Award of the UIAA Safety Label

- 5.1 Only a manufacturer, as defined in 2.4, can apply for a UIAA Safety Label.
- 5.2 Samples of the product shall be sent by the manufacturer to one of the UIAA-approved Test Laboratories with a request to test in accordance with the relevant UIAA Safety Standard. The test costs shall be paid by the manufacturer.
- 5.3 Test reports shall be in English and less than twelve months old at the time of application. If the product is manufactured under ISO 9001:2000 certification, the test report may be older but may not pre-date the start of the ISO-certification.
- 5.4 A standard attestation form, as provided by the UIAA Safety Label Administrator to the UIAA-approved Test Laboratory, filled in and signed by a UIAA-approved Test Laboratory may replace a test report.
- 5.5 For products for which the relevant UIAA Safety Standard does not demand a test report for extra requirements on top of the EN requirements, an EC type-examination certificate from an EU Notified Body may replace a test report.
- 5.6 The test report shall specify the applicant as either the manufacturer or the company or organisation that puts the product onto the market.
- 5.7 The test report and the standard application form for a UIAA Safety Label certificate shall be provided by the manufacturer to the UIAA Safety Label Administrator.
- 5.8 Size series of products may be covered under a single UIAA Safety Label, providing that all products are tested and a single test report is issued for all products in the size series. Otherwise multiple reports will translate into multiple UIAA Safety Labels.
- 5.9 After the Board of Approval has awarded the UIAA Safety Label and the appropriate fee has been received, the UIAA Safety Label Administrator issues a UIAA Safety Label certificate and sends it to the manufacturer.

5.10 The UIAA Safety Label certification period will normally start at the first of January of the year following the application and last for three years. In case a manufacturer requires immediate issue of a UIAA Safety Label certificate during a calendar year, a fee of € 50 will be charged and the certification period will extend till December 31st of the second year after the date the certificate is issued.

5.11 The names of the manufacturers who have a UIAA Safety Label and a list of their labelled products are published on the UIAA Website. The list is updated every six months.

5.12 The UIAA Safety Label is valid for a period of at most three years and is then due for renewal.

6 UIAA Safety Label Certificate

6.1 The Board of Approval awards a UIAA Safety Label certificate for mountaineering and climbing equipment, which meets the requirements of the relevant UIAA Safety Standard.

6.2 The UIAA Safety Label certificate will state the product name and reference number as it is stated in the test report and/or on the EC type-examination certificate.

6.3 A UIAA Safety Label certificate is only valid for the manufacturer whose name is on the certificate and for the product model/type as stated on the certificate.

6.4 If another company or organisation affixes his own brand labelling to a product, having the UIAA Safety Label, this company or organisation is considered a manufacturer, as defined in 2.4, and shall apply for a new UIAA Safety Label, according to section 5.

6.5 Provided the annual Safety Label fee has been paid, the UIAA Safety Label certificate permits the manufacturer, whose name is on the certificate, to use the UIAA Safety Label Trademark to indicate that the product meets the requirements of the relevant UIAA Safety Standard.

7 Renewal of a UIAA Safety Label

7.1 The UIAA Safety Label for a product shall be renewed at the end of the certification period, if continuity is to be maintained.

7.2 If the product is manufactured under ISO 9001:2000 certification, it is only necessary to send a copy of the current ISO certificate to the Safety Label Administrator at the end of each calendar year, and a new UIAA Safety Label certificate will be issued.

7.3 If the product is not manufactured under ISO 9001:2000 certification, a test report, obtained from a UIAA-approved Test Laboratory, for the product shall be sent to the UIAA Safety Label Administrator before the end of the certification period. The test report shall be less than twelve months old.

- 7.4 If the UIAA Safety Label Administrator does not receive a test report from a non-ISO certified manufacturer after the end of the certification period, one reminder will be sent to the manufacturer. If there is no reply within one month after the reminder is sent, the UIAA Safety Label will be withdrawn.

8 Withdrawal of the UIAA Safety Label

- 8.1 In the following cases the Board of Approval shall withdraw the UIAA Safety Label from the manufacturer:
- (a) If the product no longer meets the requirements of the relevant UIAA Standard.
 - (b) If, where a repeat test is required, the test report has not been sent to the UIAA Safety Label Administrator within two months after the end of the previous certification period.
 - (c) If the manufacturer has not paid his annual fee as a Trade Member within the specified time limit.
- 8.2 In case of withdrawal the UIAA Safety Label will be removed from the list of current UIAA Safety Labels, published on the UIAA Website. Notice of a withdrawal may also be published on the UIAA website.

9 Termination of the Production of a Product with the UIAA Safety Label

- 9.1 When a manufacturer ceases to manufacture a certain product for which there is a valid UIAA Safety Label, the manufacturer shall inform the UIAA Safety Label Administrator in writing, providing sufficient details to identify the product (number of the UIAA Safety Label certificate, model name, etc.), and the month and year in which manufacture stopped.
- 9.2 If a product, having the UIAA Safety Label, is recalled by the manufacturer, the manufacturer shall notify the UIAA Safety Label administrator, who will publish the recall on the UIAA website.

10 Extension of the UIAA Safety Label

- 10.1 For a product, having the UIAA Safety Label, the manufacturer, whose name is on the original UIAA Safety Label certificate, can apply for an extension, if the product is also sold under a different model/type name. The manufacturer will provide to the UIAA Safety Label Administrator the name of the original product and its UIAA Safety Label certificate number and the new name for which an extension is sought. The manufacturer will state, in writing, that the two products are identical.
- 10.2 The UIAA Safety Label Administrator will issue a separate Safety Label certificate with the alternative commercial name. The end of the certification period will be equal to the date for the original product.
- 10.3 The manufacturer is responsible for the correct use of an extension of the UIAA Safety Label. In case of a misuse of an extension, the original UIAA Safety Label (and any extensions thereof) will be withdrawn.

11 Use of the UIAA Safety Label Trademark

- 11.1 The UIAA Safety Label Trademark and the four letters "UIAA" may only be associated with products, which have been awarded the UIAA Safety Label.
- 11.2 The UIAA Safety Label Trademark or the four letters "UIAA" may be put directly on the product and/or on the product information.
- 11.3 The UIAA Safety Label Trademark or the four letters "UIAA" may also be used on the website, in catalogues and in other publications of the manufacturer, but these trademarks shall be used in such a way that they are only associated with products, which have been awarded the UIAA Safety Label.

12 UIAA-approved Test Laboratories

- 12.1 A UIAA-approved Test Laboratory must be equipped for the tests in question according to current developments in technology, must have knowledge about climbing and mountaineering equipment and its intended use, and must be either
 - (a) an EU Notified Body, according to the 89/686 EEC directive, for EC type-examination (Art.10) with a NANDO notification that includes the product(s) for which the test laboratory seeks UIAA approval, or
 - (b) in possession of ISO/IEC 17025:2005 certification for the particular UIAA Safety Standard(s) for which the test laboratory seeks UIAA approval.
- 12.2 The UIAA Safety Commission approves or rejects a test laboratory. The UIAA Safety Commission must justify a rejection. One or more Technical Directors and/or other representatives of the UIAA Safety Commission will make a formal visit to the facility before approval is given. The cost of such a formal visit will be borne by the test laboratory.
- 12.3 Approval of a Test Laboratory by the UIAA Safety Commission will be for a period of three years. After this period the Test Laboratory can re-apply.
- 12.4 If the UIAA Safety Commission considers a Round Robin test necessary, to assess the test results of an existing or applicant Test Laboratory with the results of other UIAA-approved Test Laboratories, this round Robin Test will be compulsory and the costs will be borne by the Test Laboratory.
- 12.5 The UIAA Safety Commission will issue a Certificate of Accreditation to the approved Test Laboratory. This certificate permits the Test Laboratory to use the title "UIAA-approved Test Laboratory" for the duration of the certification period.
- 12.6 A list of UIAA-approved Test Laboratories will be published on the UIAA website.

13 Changes of the UIAA Standards

- 13.1 Changes to the UIAA Safety Standards will be published on the UIAA Website.
- 13.2 In case of a change to a UIAA Safety Standard, the manufacturer may still apply for a UIAA Safety Label on the basis of the old standard for a period of six months after publication of the change on the UIAA Website.

13.3 The UIAA Safety Commission updates the General Regulations for the UIAA Safety Label and the UIAA Safety Standards as required.

14 Quality Assurance

14.1 Because the UIAA Safety Commission recognizes the importance of consistent quality control in the manufacture and assembly of climbing equipment, the UIAA Safety Commission supports and encourages quality systems that conform to ISO 9001:2000.

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