

UIAA 103

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Tape

Climbing and Mountaineering Equipment



International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation

UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

UIAA Safety Standard – 103 – Version 3.1

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c/o Schweizer Alpen-Club SAC, Monbijoustrasse 61, Postfach, CH-3000 Bern 14, Switzerland
+41 31 370 18 28 • www.theuiaa.org • office@theuiaa.org

Table of Contents

Foreword	iii
Copyright and Version Management	iv
1 General Remarks on the UIAA Trademark and UIAA Safety Label	5
2 Requirements	5
3 Demonstrating that the Requirements are Met	5
4 Information to be Supplied	5
5 Attachment of the UIAA Safety Label	6
Revision History	7

Foreword

UIAA standards are the only ‘globally recognized’ standards for mountaineering equipment. In order to prevent multiplicity, the UIAA collaborates with its partner in standardization, CEN, and bases UIAA 103 on the European Standard EN 565:2017.

The EN standards are derived from the original UIAA standards, the first of their kind. The UIAA publishes user-friendly pictorials for each standard. UIAA 103 imposes requirements in addition to those of EN 565:2017. 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 “[Regulations for existing and potential Safety Label Holders](#)”).

A complete list of UIAA standards for mountaineering and climbing equipment can be found on the UIAA website www.theuiaa.org/safety-standards/.

NOTE – Owing to copyright restrictions, this UIAA Standard does not reproduce the full requirements of the referenced standards. To ensure full compliance, users must obtain official copies of these documents. They are available for purchase from the [CEN](#) website.

This standard has been created and updated based on scientific research coordinated and funded by UIAA, as a service to all mountaineers.

Copyright and Version Management

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This document was first published in English. The English master text is decisive in any conflict of interpretation. For any validations in translation, the UIAA should be contacted via the UIAA Office in Bern, Switzerland.

UIAA declarations, standards, documents and guidelines are subject to review. Updates are recorded in the version history provided at the end of this document.

UIAA documents are generally produced by the responsible Commission and are subject to approval in accordance with the UIAA Articles of Association. All UIAA documents can be found on the relevant subject area on the UIAA website.

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The versioning is Vx.y, where:

- x Major revision of the document. Each change in requirement implies a main evolution.
- y Minor revision of the document. Editorial or non-technical updates.

For example, **V5.0** denotes the fifth major revision of the document.

Note that test reports comprising only the main issue, e.g., V5, are also accepted (instead of, e.g., V5.2) since the requirements are identical.

1 General Remarks on the UIAA Trademark and UIAA Safety Label

1.1 The UIAA Trademark (see [Clause 5](#)) is copyright protected internationally. The UIAA Safety Label is only granted to items of mountaineering and climbing equipment upon approval of the prospective label holder's application by the UIAA.

1.2 The procedure to be followed by a manufacturer, when applying for a UIAA Safety Label, is laid down in the "[Regulations for existing and potential Safety Label Holders](#)" available at the [UIAA website](#).

2 Requirements

2.1 The UIAA Safety Label can only be granted for tape that meets all the requirements of EN 565:2017, with the following exceptions:

2.1.1 No EN number required.

2.2 For the award of the UIAA Safety Label, the following additional safety requirements shall be met:

2.2.1 Packaging

If tape is sold on a drum or otherwise packaged and consists of more than one piece, the number of pieces shall be stated on the drum.

3 Demonstrating that the Requirements are Met

3.1 The requirements of [2.1](#) shall be satisfied by a test report from a UIAA-approved test laboratory.

3.2 The requirements of [2.2](#) shall be satisfied by the manufacturer certifying on the UIAA Safety Label Test Template Form that the product meets this particular requirement.

4 Information to be Supplied

The "information to be supplied" shall be given in standard English and, if required, in the official language(s) of the country in which the product is made available on the market. As an alternative to a printed form, the information may be provided via an electronic or other data storage format link (e.g., a QR code) allowing the downloading of the information. The information link shall be preceded or surmounted by an icon showing an open booklet; the information link and icon may be directly printed on the product in a clearly visible and accessible place.

5 Attachment of the UIAA Safety Label

5.1 Safety Label Marking

For any model of mountaineering equipment, which has been granted the UIAA Safety Label, the UIAA Trade-mark (see [Figure 1](#)) or the four letters "UIAA" shall be marked clearly and indelibly on each item sold in accordance with the branding guidelines specified in the ["Regulations for existing and potential Safety Label Holders"](#).



Figure 1: UIAA Trademark or the four letters "UIAA" word mark.

5.2 Other

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 catalogs and other publications of the manufacturer. In the last case, the illustration and/or the text shall clearly apply only to the equipment which has been granted the UIAA Safety Label.

Revision History

V3.1 — March 2026

Formatting.

V3 — Feb 2018

EN 565:2006 updated to EN 565:2017.

V2 — June 2017

5.1 The information to be supplied: (in accordance with EN 565:2017) shall be given in English, or at least in the language of the country in which the product is sold.

Has been updated with: The "information to be supplied" shall be given in standard English and, if required, in the official language(s) of the country in which the product is made available on the market. As an alternative to a printed form, the information may be provided via an electronic or other data storage format link (e.g. a QR code) allowing the downloading of the information. The information link shall be preceded or surmounted by an icon showing an open booklet; the information link and icon may be directly printed on the product in a clearly visible and accessible place. Unanimously approved Safecom Worden June 2017.

V1 — March 2013

Corrections of last EN norm + in point 3.