

# UIAA 126

**Third Edition**

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## Rope Clamps

**Climbing and Mountaineering Equipment**



**International Climbing and Mountaineering Federation**  
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES ASSOCIATIONS D'ALPINISME

**UIAA Safety Standard – 126 – Version 3.1**

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## 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 126 on the European Standard EN 567:2013.

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 126 imposes requirements in addition to those of EN 567:2013.

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/](http://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, those applying this standard 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

© 2013, 2017, 2021 & 2025

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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Copyright is secured for the present document including all its parts. Any use beyond the limit of the copyright act is forbidden. Copyright of photos and pictorials belong to the UIAA or according to specific credits mentioned.

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.

## Normative References

The following documents are referenced in such a way that their content, in whole or in part, constitutes requirements of this standard. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition (including any amendments) applies.

EN 567:2013, *Mountaineering equipment - Rope clamps - Safety requirements and test methods*

## 1 General Remarks on the UIAA Trademark and UIAA Label

**1.1** The UIAA Trademark (see [Clause 7](#)) 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 Terms and Definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in EN 567:2013 apply, with contextual adaptations where necessary, while maintaining alignment with the original intent of the standard. Additional terms and definitions specific to this document are listed below.

### 2.1 Rope clamp for self-belaying

A rope clamp, in accordance with EN 567:2013, intended to protect a climber against the consequences of a fall, by attachment to a rope, which is secured to an anchor(s) at the top of a pitch.

## 3 Requirements

**3.1** The UIAA Label can only be granted for Rope Clamps that meet all the requirements of EN 567:2013, with the following exception:

**3.1.1** No EN number required.

**3.2** For the award of the UIAA Label, the following additional safety requirements shall be met:

**3.2.1** Rope Clamps for self-belaying shall not slide along the rope when loaded by hand (see figure 1) in the normal loading direction.

## 4 Test Methods

### 4.1 Test Method

Check by hand force, applied in accordance with the figure 1, and by visual examination that the requirements according to [3.2.1](#) are met.

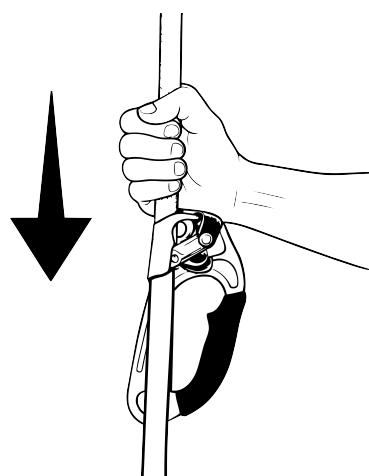


Figure 1: Testing the rope clamp in accordance with 4.1

#### 4.1.1 Determination of Strength

If the mantle of a rope sample breaks during the strength test 5.3 of EN 567:2013, use a new sample of rope and continue the test.

## 5 Demonstrating that the Requirements are met

5.1 The requirements of 3.1 shall be satisfied by a test report from a UIAA-approved test laboratory.

5.2 The requirements of 3.2 shall be satisfied by the manufacturer certifying on the Safety Label Test Template form that the product meets this particular requirement.

## 6 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 and contain at least the following:

- a. The name of the manufacturer or its representative;
- b. Reference to this UIAA standard, (e.g., UIAA 126);
- c. The meaning of any markings on the product;
- d. How to use the product (e.g. installation on the harness, connection to anchor point...);
- e. How to choose other components for use in the system (e.g., connectors, harness ...);
- f. How to maintain/service the product, on the effects of chemical reagents and how to disinfect the product without adverse effect;
- g. The lifespan of the product and how to assess it;
- h. Influence of wet and icy conditions;
- i. Danger related to factors and situations that could affect the performances of the product (e.g., sharp edges, knots...);
- j. Influence of storage and ageing due to use;
- k. A warning to state that this product shall not be used for via ferrata.

## 7 Attachment of the UIAA Safety Label

### 7.1 Safety Label Marking

For any model of mountaineering equipment, which has been granted the UIAA Safety Label, the UIAA Trademark (see [Figure 2](#)) 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 2: UIAA Trademark or the four letters "UIAA" word mark.

### 7.2 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.

Last Updated	Remarks
December 2025	Formatting
November 2021	Clarification of section 2.2.2 with the addition of strength test ref. "5.3 of EN 567:2013"
February 2018	EN 567:2011 updated to EN 567:2013
June 2017	4.1 The information to be supplied: (in accordance with EN 567:2011) 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 Safe-com Woerden June 2017
March 2013	Corrections of the last EN norm + in point 3

\* Copies of the EN Standards can be purchased from [EN website](#).