



Structure, Tower &  
Antenna Council  
Conseil des structures,  
pylônes et antennes

# STAC Bulletin

## Fall Protection Systems without CSA-Compliant Fall Arrestors and Vertical Rigid Rails (Z259.2.4-15)

Ref. # SB-0003

December 13, 2018

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Date: December 13, 2018

Bulletin Reference #: SB-0003

## Fall Protection Systems without CSA-Compliant Fall Arrestors and Vertical Rigid Rails (Z259.2.4-15)

### ISSUE:

An unknown number of Canadian communications towers currently utilize fall protection systems that no longer have CSA-compliant compatible fall arrestors and vertical rigid rails, resulting in a potentially hazardous situation for tower climbers. As a result, workers are required to utilize the double-hook climbing method to access those towers, leading to reduced efficiency and increased exposure to a potential fall hazard created by human error.

Canadian tower owners are seeking to identify each occurrence of such non-compliant fall protection systems located on towers within their inventories. Tower contractors are being asked to help identify sites at which non-compliant fall protection systems are installed, and to report any such sites to the appropriate site owner directly.

### PURPOSE:

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide tower owners and tower contractors with an overview of the issue – and to advise contractors on how to contact participating site owners directly with information about sites that contain these systems.

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

The [CSA Z259.2.4-15 standard](#) required several significant changes to the design and testing of vertical rigid rail fall arrestors following incidents that exposed potential flaws with previous design requirements found in earlier iterations of the standard. In particular, these changes heightened requirements related to:

- Cold-testing the fall arrestors;
- Fall-back protection; and
- Maximum falling arrest force.

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As of November 2018, CSA has certified three products to the CSA Z259.2.4-15 standard. Click on the product name below to view the CSA file:

Products Certified to CSA Z259.2.4-15 (as of November, 2018)			
Manufacturer	Product Name	File Number	Link to Manufacturer Website
Honeywell Safety Products USA, Inc	<a href="#">Soll GlideLoc</a>	019737_0_000	<a href="https://www.honeywellsafety.com/Products/Fall_Protection/Miller_GlideLoc_Ladder_Systems.aspx">https://www.honeywellsafety.com/Products/Fall_Protection/Miller_GlideLoc_Ladder_Systems.aspx</a>
Trylon TSF	<a href="#">Cougar Trolley 3.0</a>	062527_0_000	<a href="http://www.trylon.com/products/fall_protection.aspx">http://www.trylon.com/products/fall_protection.aspx</a>
Turris Corp.	<a href="#">RAM</a>	255877	<a href="http://www.turriscorp.com/ram_safety_systems_pro.php">http://www.turriscorp.com/ram_safety_systems_pro.php</a>

Please note that this list may not be exhaustive and may change as additional products are certified to the standard. In some cases, previous versions of products with the same or similar names may have been certified to an older CSA standard, and it is incumbent on all employers to ensure their personnel are using the most up-to-date equipment.

All fall protection systems and related parts/components must be used in accordance with manufacturer instructions at all times. Tower climbers using those systems must only use compatible components in accordance with manufacturer instructions.

To view an updated list of products certified to the CSA Z259.2.4-15 standard, please consult the CSA website at <https://www.csagroup.org/testing-certification/product-listing/>. (Please see "Verification of CSA-Compliant Systems" below for more details.)

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### RECOMMENDED STEPS FOR TOWER CONTRACTORS:

It is recommended that all tower contractors who are going to perform work on a tower that requires the use of a vertical rigid rail first identify and assess the fall arrestors compatible with the rigid rail system to determine if those components are certified under the CSA Z259.2.4-15 standard. This process can be completed as follows:

1. **Identify** the fall protection system installed on the site at which work will be completed;
2. **Confirm** that tower climbers have compatible fall arrestors;
3. **Verify** through the [CSA website](#) that the compatible fall arrestor is certified to CSA Z259.2.4-15. *(Please see “Verification of CSA-Compliant Systems” below for more details.)*

If the compatible fall arrestor is certified to the standard, crews should ensure the fall protection system is installed and inspected as per manufacturer’s instructions and then proceed to climb the tower utilizing the installed fall protection system.

If the compatible fall arrestor is **not** certified to the standard, STAC recommends that crews take the following actions:

1. **Contact** the site owner to flag the site as having a fall protection system that no longer has a CSA-compliant fall arrestor; *(Please see “List of Participating Tower Owners and Other Companies” below for more details. Regardless of owner participation in this project, the tower owner should be notified of the non-compliant system so further action can be taken to upgrade the fall protection system.)*
2. **Wrap** the rigid rail in tape in a way that ensures that a trolley cannot be connected and/or used at or beyond 1.2 m above ground;
3. **Proceed** to climb the tower using approved climbing practices that do not require the use of the fall protection system.



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### VERIFICATION OF CSA-COMPLIANT SYSTEMS

CSA Group provides an online search function that permits companies and individuals to identify products that have been certified to each CSA standard. Please complete the following steps to see the current list of products certified to the CSA Z259.2.4-15 standard:

1. Visit <https://www.csagroup.org/testing-certification/product-listing/>
2. Enter "Z259.2.4-15" in the "keyword" field on the product listing search form and click "submit."
3. Review the list of products that appears below the search form. Click on any of the individual company names listed to see additional details about the specific product certified to the standard. All products listed should have a "class" listing of 7217-02.

Search for

Product Listing

Class Description

Every product that bears a CSA mark is listed in the CSA Group Product Listing. You can determine if a product has been evaluated by CSA Group by searching below. You can search by:

- Product type (using the keyword function) For more search results, please use the Symbol \* before and after the keyword
- Industry
- Manufacturer name or location
- Listing record information (\*file number, class number or class description) \*Do not use alpha characters when performing a search

KEYWORD

z259.2.4-15

PRODUCT AREA

Select

REGION

Select a Country

FILE NUMBER

0000

CLASS DESCRIPTION

Enter Class Description

Reset

Submit

Showing 1 - 25 of 3

MANUFACTURER	PROV STATE	COUNTRY REGION	CLASS	CLASS DESCRIPTION	FILE NUMBER
Turris Corp.	ON	Canada	7217-02	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PRODUCTS - Fall Arresting-Devices, Arresters and Vertical Rigid Rails	255877
Trylon TSF	ON	Canada	7217-02	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PRODUCTS - Fall Arresting-Devices, Arresters and Vertical Rigid Rails	062527_0_000
Honeywell Safety Products USA, Inc	PA	USA	7217-02	OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY PRODUCTS - Fall Arresting-Devices, Arresters and Vertical Rigid Rails	019737_0_000

### LIST OF PARTICIPATING TOWER OWNERS AND OTHER COMPANIES:

Please see the STAC-provided list of Canadian tower owners that have asked STAC to be included in this project, as well as the appropriate point of contact at each company here: <https://www.stacouncil.ca/fall-protection-systems-without-csa-compliant-fall-arrestors-and-vertical-rigid-rails-z259-2-4-15-list-of-participating-tower-owners/>.

Regardless of owner participation in this project, the tower owner should be notified of the non-compliant system so further action can be taken to upgrade the fall protection system.

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### RECOMMENDED STEPS FOR TOWER OWNERS:

STAC recommends that tower owners share this bulletin widely amongst their site technicians and any other staff who may receive information about these sites from tower contractors directly, and that they provide any such staff with information about internal reporting and recording mechanisms relating to this file.

CSA S37 requirements call for signage to mark sites that do not have CSA-compliant climbing systems, and tower owners should implement clearly worded signage identifying this concern at each affected site, as a minimum first step.

### CONTACT:

If you have questions about this bulletin, or to get information or advice, please contact:  
Nick Kyonka, STAC Program Director, at 613-233-4888 ext. 227 or [info@stacouncil.ca](mailto:info@stacouncil.ca)

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*The Structure, Tower and Antenna Council (STAC) helps ensure communications antennas in Canada continue to be constructed with the highest regard to worker safety.*

*STAC is a non-profit Council of the Canadian Wireless Telecommunications Association (CWTA), representing and providing a collaborative forum for Canadian wireless communications carriers, tower owners/operators, tower and rooftop equipment engineering service suppliers, and wireless communication facilities construction and maintenance contractors.*

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