

# Assessing Safety Distances to prevent reaching through openings

## Gotcha Stick for Finger and Hand Protection



Regardless of whether an identified hazard is at the point-of-operation (the part of the equipment where the material or workpiece is positioned and work is performed) or another equally hazardous location of a machine, access to the hazard should be prevented.

The “Gotcha Stick” Safe Distance Scale is a four segment stick featuring EU metric measurements on one side and U.S. customary measurements on the other. The Gotcha Stick is the easiest means of verifying that openings in barrier guards will not allow the hazard(s) to be accessed by personnel reaching through a barrier guard.

- **Conformity with ISO 13857**

Compliance with measurements based on ISO 13857 for openings up to 20 mm.

- **Conformity with ANSI Standards**

Compliance with measurements based on ANSI B65-1 and ANSI/SPI B1 for openings up to 49 mm (1.875 inches).

- **Easy to use**

The Gotcha Stick is the easiest means of verifying that openings in barrier guards will not allow the hazard(s) to be accessed by personnel reaching through a barrier guard.

**Ensure personnel safety by testing barrier openings**

*Would you like to know more?*

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# How to use your Gotcha Stick ?

## Proper Use

The Gotcha Stick is an anthropomorphic tool based on measurements of the human body, and is intended to be representative of the finger, hand and arm. The Gotcha Stick is a two-dimensional representation of these three-dimensional human body parts. As such, the tool must be used correctly to ensure barrier guards are located at a sufficient distance from the hazard.

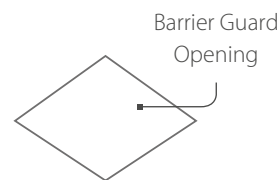
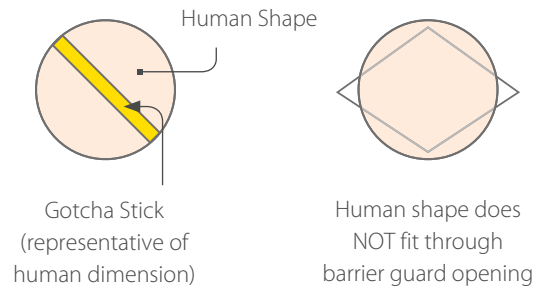
As shown below, the scaled side of the tool is placed perpendicular to the smallest dimension in the guard material and inserted toward the hazard. The guard should prevent the tip of the tool from reaching the hazard area. When multiple openings of various sizes exist in the guard, each opening should be tested with the tool according to this procedure.

## Orientation for Proper use

### When using the ISO 13857 segment (1)

Use the ORANGE part of the tool. As shown on the right.

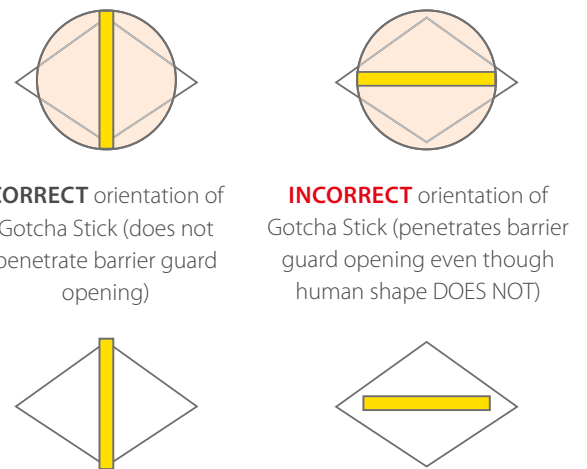
(1) This segment complies with table 5 of ISO 13857:2019.



### When using the 3 North-American segments (2)

Use the YELLOW 3-segment part of the tool.

(2) These 3 segments combine OSHA 1910.217 and ANSI 01.1 requirements.

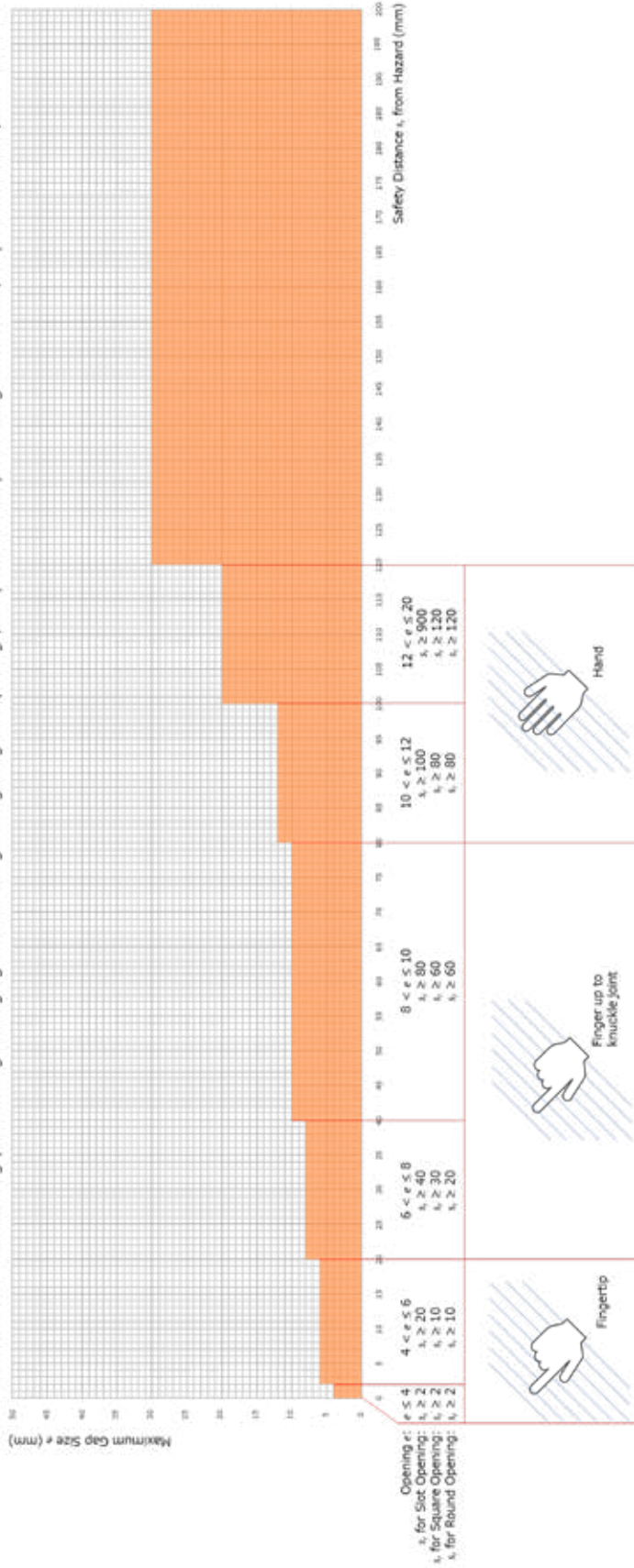


## Gotcha Stick for finger and hand protection

To be used when assessing protective guarding against reaching through regular openings, for persons of 3 years of age and above, as per ISO 13857, table 5.

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The table is created with exact measurements as per ISO 13857, table 5. Please take into consideration that printing might affect the actual size of the table.

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