



OSHA Auditing: Federal Compliance Guide: Facilities

RELEASE 195 – DECEMBER 2020

highlights of this release

- **Introduction:** Conforming revisions and other minor changes were made throughout the main Introduction to this guide to ensure consistency with other edits made as part of this release.
- **Review of Regulatory Summary Sections:** As part of ongoing quality control efforts, the Regulatory Summary sections of all modules are being reviewed to standardize format and streamline content. For this release, revisions were made to the Regulatory Summary sections of the following modules:
 - Module R1 Telecommunications
 - Module R2 Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution
 - Module R3 Special Industries – Part A Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Mills
 - Module R3 Special Industries – Part B Textiles
 - Module R3 Special Industries – Part C Bakeries
 - Module R3 Special Industries – Part D Sawmills
 - Module R3 Special Industries – Part E Laundry Machinery and Operations
 - Module R3 Special Industries – Part F Grain Handling Operations
 - Module S Electrical Safety
 - Module T Diving Operations
 - Module Z1 Hazard Communication
 - Module Z2 Chemical, Biological, and Physical Exposure Control
 - Module Z3 Bloodborne Pathogens
- **Module N Materials Handling – Part B Powered Industrial Trucks:** Paragraph 1.1 in Section 1 of the Rulebook was revised to reflect more relevant letters of interpretation regarding OSHA's approach to the use of personnel platforms attached to powered industrial trucks.
- **Module Z2 Chemical, Biological, and Physical Exposure Control – Part U Beryllium:** Sections 1, 8, 9, and 10 of the Rulebook were revised to correspond with changes made to other sections in the previous release.

did you know?

- **Emergency Temporary Standards for COVID-19:** Under an executive order issued on January 21, 2021, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has been required to consider whether any emergency temporary standards on COVID-19, including with respect to masks in the workplace, are necessary. If such standards are determined to be necessary, they must be issued by March 15, 2021, and would become effective immediately.
- **Proposed Rule Updating Hazard Communication Standard:** The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a proposed rule to update the Hazard Communication Standard to align with the 7th revision of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS). The federal register notice is available at <https://www.federalregister.gov/public-inspection/2020-28987/hazard-communication-standard>.
- **New OSHA Leadership:** OSHA has named James Frederick as the new Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health, Joseph "Chip" Hughes, Jr. as the new Deputy Assistant Secretary for Pandemic and Emergency Response, and Ann Rosenthal as a new Senior Advisor.
- **Technical Report on Filtering Facepiece Respirators and COVID:** The U.S. National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has released a new technical report showing that wearing a filtering facepiece respirator with an exhalation valve can reduce virus particle emissions to levels similar to or better than those provided by surgical masks, procedure masks, or cloth face coverings. The technical report is available at <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2021-107/default.html>.



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