



Environmental Health & Safety Audit Protocol Vietnam 2021

STP ComplianceEHS (STP) announces the release of its recently updated EHS audit protocol for Vietnam. This audit protocol, which covers relevant national EHS requirements, was previously updated in December 2020. The regulatory date for the current release is December 2021.

new and noteworthy

- **Lift Safety:** *Circular No. 42/2019/TT-BLDTBXH - National Technical Regulation on Safety for Lift (QCVN 02:2019/BLĐTBXH)* specifies the safety rules for permanently installed new passenger or goods passenger lifts, with traction, positive, or hydraulic drive, serving defined landing levels, having a car designed for the transportation of persons or persons and goods, suspended by ropes, chains or jacks and moving between guide rails inclined not more than 15° to the vertical.

This change impacts:

- Section 11.0 – Equipment Machine and Electrical Safety: Subsection 5 – Lifting

- **Electrical Safety Measures:** *Circular No. 05/2021/TT-BCT* is applicable to organizations and individuals involved in the electricity industry and using electricity; operating electrical equipment requiring safety inspection; electrical equipment inspection service providers on Vietnamese territory and other relevant organizations and individuals. It elaborates certain content related to electrical safety, specifically:

- Safety training and assessment, grade assignment, and electrical safety card issuance;
- Grounding of metal structures of housing and works located inside and adjacent to safety corridors of overhead transmission lines of 220 kV and higher to prevent electrostatic induction;
- Measurement and mapping of electric field intensity;
- Electrical safety signage; and
- Agreements made upon construction of housing and works located inside safety corridors of overhead transmission lines, violations concerning safety corridors of high-voltage electrical grids, and electrical accident reporting.

This change impacts:

- Section 11.0 – Equipment Machine and Electrical Safety: Subsection 2 – Electrical Safety Including Lockout/Tagout
- Section 17.0 – Construction Work Site Safety: Subsection 1 – Construction Safety

release notes

please review

● Construction Quality:

Circular No. 10/2021/TT-BXD provides guidance on implementation of several articles and measures for implementation of the *Decree No. 06/2021/ND-CP* (dated January 26, 2021) and the *Decree No. 44/2016/ND-CP* (dated May 15, 2016) of the Government. This Circular elaborates on several regulations on management of occupational safety and health, construction quality, and maintenance of construction projects. It applies to domestic authorities, entities, individuals, and foreign entities involved in management of occupational safety and health, construction quality and maintenance of construction projects.

Decree No. 06/2021/ND-CP elaborates on several regulations regarding the quality management, construction, and maintenance of construction works. It applies to domestic and foreign entities, organizations and individuals related to the quality management, construction, and maintenance of construction works.

These changes impact:

- Section 17.0 – Construction Work Site Safety: Subsection 1 – Construction Safety

● Fire Prevention and Safety:

Decree No. 136/2020/ND-CP deals with fire safety and firefighting activities, fire safety and firefighting equipment, forces; investment in fire safety and firefighting, responsibilities of Ministries, ministerial agencies, Governmental agencies, the People's Committees for fire safety and firefighting found in Article 5.

This change impacts:

- Section 13.0 – Fire Safety: Subsection 1 – Emergency Alarm Systems; Subsection 2 – Emergency Response Plans; Subsection 3 – Emergency Response Teams; and Subsection 5 – Fire Safety, Including Fire Codes

QCVN 06:2021/BXD National Technical Regulation on Fire Safety of Buildings and Constructions specifies general requirements on fire safety for rooms, houses, and constructions, and is compulsory to apply in all phases of new construction, improvements, repairs, or changes in the function, and provide technical classification of fire for buildings, parts, and parts of the house, for rooms, construction components, and construction materials. Sections 3 – 6 of this Regulation do not apply to buildings with special functions, such as: manufacturers or preserves of explosives and substances; depots of petroleum and oil products, mines, natural gas, flammable gases, as well as self-igniting substances; manufacturers or warehouses of toxic chemicals; defense works; underground parts of subways; and mine works, etc.

This change impacts:

- Section 13.0 – Fire Safety: Subsection 4 – Fire Egress

Circular No. 17/2021/TT-BCA provides for rules, details, documents, statistics production, and reporting, responsibilities of relevant authorities, organizations, and facilities for management, preservation, maintenance of fire prevention, fire fighting, and rescue equipment. This Circular applies to:

- Local police authorities, commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, police officers, responsible for management, preservation, maintenance of fire prevention, fire fighting, and rescue equipment; and
- Authorities, organizations, and facilities relevant to the management, preservation, maintenance of fire prevention, fire fighting, and rescue equipment.

This change impacts:

- Section 13.0 – Fire Safety: Subsection 6 – Fire Suppression Equipment and Procedures

Circular No. 149/2020/TT-BCA provides guidelines for law on fire prevention and fighting, law on amendments to law on fire prevention and fighting and *Government's Decree No. 136/2020/ND-CP* (dated November 24, 2020) providing guidelines for a number of articles of law on fire prevention and fighting and law on amendments to law on fire prevention and fighting. This Circular provides for some fire prevention and fighting operations, including: management documents; fire safety regulations; fire escape plans; fire prevention and fighting instruction signs; signage and prohibition signs; residential areas at high risk of fire and explosion; decentralization of fire management; fire safety inspection; fire fighting plan approval and drills; systems for management of databases on fire prevention and fighting and incident notification; establishment of specialized firefighting forces; content and duration of refresher courses on fire prevention and fighting operations; and inspection stamps for fire prevention and fighting equipment.

This change impacts:

- Section 13.0 – Fire Safety: Subsection 6 – Fire Suppression Equipment and Procedures
- Section 17.0 – Construction Work Site Safety: Subsection 2 – Building Standards
- **Preparation of Dangerous Goods for Transport:** *Circular No. 37/2020/TT-BCT* stipulates the list of dangerous goods requiring packaging during transport, packaging requirements, means of containment of dangerous goods, emergency response plans, and training for individuals involved in the transport of dangerous goods by road, rail, and inland waterway under the management of the Ministry of Industry and Trade as prescribed in Article 24 of *Decree No. 42/2020/ND-CP*.

This change impacts:

- Section 14.0 – Transportation of Dangerous Goods: Subsection 2 – Preparation of Dangerous Goods for Transportation (Packaging, Labeling, Marking, Manifesting)
- **Marine Protection:**
Circular No. 34/2020/TT-BGTVT provides amendments and supplementations to some articles which provides the periodic reporting regulation in the marine area.

This change impacts:

- Section 19.0 – Marine Protection and Operations: Subsection 1 – Marine Protection/Operations

highlights of this release

Section 1.0 – General Environmental

- Minor revisions to this protocol section have been made to specify orders and procedures for appraisal and approval of plans for environmental renovation and restoration for entities as amended in Article 5 of *Decree No.19/2015/ND-CP* and Article 2 of *Decree No. 40/2019/ND-CP*.

release notes

please review

Section 2.0 – Air Emissions

- Subsection 1 – Air Quality Performance/Emission Standards was updated to reference *QCVN 51:2017/BTNMT National Technical Regulation on Emission for Steel Industry*, which replaces the 2013 version; the content was not otherwise changed.

Section 3.0 – Water and Wastewater Management

- Subsection 1 – Wastewater Treatment (Including Permitting, Facility, Personnel, Reporting, and Recordkeeping) was updated to reference *QCVN 52:2017/BTNMT National Technical Regulation on Wastewater of Steel Industry*, which replaces the 2013 version; the content was not otherwise changed.

Section 9.0 – Asbestos

- Previous Subsection 1 – Asbestos was deleted because *Decision No. 1469/QĐ-TTg Approving the Master Plan on Development of Vietnam's Construction Material Industry through 2020, with a Vision Toward 2030*, which included the aim to prohibit the use of amphibole asbestos fibers (brown and green asbestos) in roofing panel production, has been repealed. There is currently no specific asbestos-related legislation in Vietnam.

Section 13.0 – Fire Safety

- Subsection 1 – Emergency Alarm Systems, Subsection 2 – Emergency Response Plans, Subsection 3 – Emergency Response Teams, and Subsection 5 – Fire Safety, Including Fire Codes have been updated to include *Decree No. 136/2020/ND-CP* (effective from January 10, 2021), which supersedes the Government's *Decree No. 79/2014/ND-CP* (dated July 31, 2014), and details a number of articles and measures of enforcement of the law on fire prevention and fire fighting and the law amending and supplementing a number of articles of the law on fire prevention and fire fighting.

Section 17.0 – Construction Work Site Safety

- Subsection 1 – Construction Safety was updated with a new question to specifically include *Decree No. 06/2021/ND-CP*, which expands upon several regulations regarding the quality management, construction, and maintenance of construction works.



industry insight

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