

SOUTH CAROLINA OSHA's REVISED STANDARDS

On April 25th, 2012, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation's OSHA Division held a public hearing to revise and amend existing health and safety standards for 29 CFR parts 1910 and 1926, in order to comply with federal laws.

SC OSHA adopted identical standards for the direct final rule revising the Acetylene Standard (§1910.102) for general industry. The revised standard replaces a reference to an outdated consensus standard with an updated reference from the Compressed Gas Association Pamphlet G-1-2009, Acetylene. Other changes included corrections and technical amendments to the following 15 OSHA standards:

- A. Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals (§ 1910.119)
- B. Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (§ 1910.120)
- C. Permit-Required Confined Spaces (§ 1910.146)
- D. Medical Services and First Aid (§§ 1910.151 and 1926.50)
- E. Servicing Multi-Piece and Single-Piece Rim Wheels (§ 1910.177)
- F. Mechanical Power Presses (§ 1910.217)
- G. Pulp, Paper, and Paperboard Mills (§ 1910.261)
- H. Sawmills (§ 1910.265)
- I. Grain Handling Facilities (§ 1910.272)
- J. Commercial Diving Operation (§ 1910.440)
- K. 13 Carcinogens (4-Nitrobiphenyl, etc.)(§ 1910.1003)
- L. Lead (§ 1910.1025 and § 1926.62)
- M. Bloodborne Pathogens (§ 1910.1030)

These amendments did not modify or revoke existing rights or obligations nor create new obligations for employers. The updates provide employers with guidance reflecting current industry practices to better protect their workers from injury or death. The updated Hazard Communication Standard now conforms to the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling (GHS).

The modifications to the Hazard Communication standard include:

- Revised criteria for classification of chemical hazards;
- Revised labeling provisions in paragraph 1910.1200 (f), that include requirements for use of standardized signal words, pictograms, hazard statements, and precautionary statements;
- A specified format for safety data sheets in paragraph 1910.1200 (g); and
- Related revisions to definitions of terms used in the standard, and
- Requirements for employee training on labels and safety data sheets in paragraph 1910.1200 (h).

Businesses in the general industry and construction sectors must implement these changes. Employers will have approximately nineteen months to train employees on the new label elements and safety data sheet (SDS) format. For OSHA state-plan states, such as South Carolina, the changes affect public sector workplaces such as state funded colleges and universities, South Carolina government agencies, prisons, fire services, police and other first-responders. Manufacturers and suppliers also have new responsibilities in regards to labeling and standardized safety data sheets.

In order to incorporate the global harmonization standard changes into their Hazard Communication programs, employers whose employees are product end-users will have to update their safety data sheets with updated versions and also review or re-implement their hazard communication programs according to the revised standards promulgated by OSHA.

There will be a four year phase-in period after the effective date of the rule for employers to complete updating their "in house" Written Hazard Communication programs required by paragraph 1910.1200 (e). During the phase-in period, employers may comply with the old standard, the new standard, or both to be deemed in compliance. Phase-in dates required under the revised Hazard Communication Standard are summarized in the table, below.

Effective Completion Date	Requirement(s)	Who
December 1, 2013	Train employees on the new label elements and safety data sheet (SDS) format.	Employers
June 1, 2015* December 1, 2015	Compliance with all modified provisions of this final rule, except: The Distributor shall not ship containers labeled by the chemical manufacturer or importer unless it is a GHS label	Chemical Manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers
June 1, 2016	Update alternative workplace labeling and hazard communication program as necessary, and provide additional employee training for newly identified physical or health hazards.	Employers
Transition Period to the effective completion dates noted above	May comply with either 29 CFR 1910.1200 (the final standard), or the current standard, or both	Chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors, and employers

SC OSHA also modified provisions of several other standards to ensure consistency with the updated Hazard Communication standard requirements. These standards include specifically the following sections: Flammable and combustible liquids, Spray finishing using flammable and combustible materials, Process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals, Hazardous waste operations and emergency response, Dipping and coating operations: Coverage and definitions, General requirements for dipping and coating operations, Additional requirements for dipping and coating operations that use flammable or combustible liquids, Additional requirements for special dipping and coating operations, General requirements for welding cutting and brazing, Asbestos, 13 Carcinogens (4-Nitrobiphenyl, etc.), Vinyl Chloride, Inorganic arsenic, Lead, Chromium (VI), Cadmium, Benzene, Coke oven emissions, Cotton dust, 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane, Acrylonitrile, Ethylene oxide, Formaldehyde, Methylenedianiline, 1,3-Butadiene, Methylene chloride, Occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals in laboratories, Methylenedianiline in construction, Lead in construction, Process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals in construction, Hazardous waste operations and emergency response in construction, Flammable and combustible liquids in construction, Definitions applicable to Subpart F for Fire Protection and Prevention in construction, Asbestos in construction, Chromium (VI) in construction, and Cadmium in construction.

The effective date for the revised standards is May 25, 2012.

Information on these standards may be obtained by viewing the following links:
http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_osha_pdf/FED20111205A.pdf

http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_osa_pdf/FED20111227.pdf
<https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/03/26/2012-4826/hazard-communication>
<http://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>
<http://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/side-by-side.html>

For additional information, you may also contact the SC OSHA Standards Office during regular working hours at (803)796-7682 or (803)796-7661.