

South Carolina OSHA will revise Standards At a Public Hearing on October 3, 2012

On October 3, 2012, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation's OSHA Division will hold 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.

S.C. OSHA is revising and amending various standards in the Construction, General Industry and Marine Terminals sectors. Revisions are being made to the following OSHA standards:

- A. Cranes and Derricks in Construction: Demolition and Underground Construction (§ 1926.800)
- B. Underground Construction (§1926.800)
- C. Removal walls, floors, and material with equipment (§1926.856)
- D. Removal of Steel Correction (1926.858)
- E. Head Protection (§1910.135, §1917.93 and §1926.100)
- F. Rigging Equipment for Material Handling (1926.251)
- G. Respiratory Protection (§1910.134)
- H. Mechanical Power Presses (§1910.217)
- I. Scaffolds Specifications (Appendix A to Subpart L of Part 1926)

For the construction industry, OSHA is amending its sling standard for "Rigging Equipment for Material Handling" by removing the rated capacity tables and making minor, nonsubstantive revisions.

OSHA is also correcting the medical evaluation questionnaire in Appendix C of its Respiratory Protection standard by removing the term "fits" in a question and also correcting its Mechanical Power Presses standard for general industry by restoring requirements that were removed inadvertently and correcting a cross reference made in two paragraphs in Appendix A to Subpart L of its scaffold standards for construction. Finally, OSHA is issuing this direct final rule to revise the personal protective equipment (PPE) sections of its general and construction industry, shipyard employment, longshoring, and marine terminals standards regarding requirements for head protection and updating the references in its standards to recognize the 2009 edition of the American national Standards for Industrial Head Protection.

The updates provide employers with guidance reflecting current industry practices to better protect their workers from injury or death.

Information on these standards may be obtained by viewing the following links:

http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_oshapdf/FED20120723A.pdf
http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_oshapdf/FED20120807.pdf
<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-04-18/pdf/2012-8881.pdf>

Persons desiring to speak at the hearing shall file with the Director of LLR a notice of intention to appear and the approximate amount of time required for her/his presentation on the particular matter no later than October 1st, 2012. Any person who wishes to express her/his views, but is unable or does not desire to appear and testify at the hearing, should submit those views in writing by October 1, 2012 to Holly Pisarik, Director of South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation.

As with any new standard adopted by federal OSHA, South Carolina, which administers its own state plan, has six months in which to adopt the federal standard or one as effective as the federal standard.

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