

INFORMATION MEMORANDUM 82-X-60

TO: All OSH Directors, Supervisors and Field Personnel

FROM: William M. Lybrand, Director of OSH

SUBJECT: Alternating Tread Type Stair

DATE: July 13, 1982

PURPOSE

This memorandum recognizes a newly developed alternating tread type stair not presently covered by existing OSH standards.

BACKGROUND

The federal OSHA Directorate of Safety Programs will propose standards for the alternating tread type stair when the Subpart D Proposal is published in the Federal Register. Based on a federal OSHA National Office Review, it appears that if the stair meets the design requirements in the Guidelines portion of this memorandum and is properly installed, used and maintained, it meets the intent of our OSH standards.

GUIDELINES

Currently there are no OSH standards relating to the alternating tread type stair. In order to provide safety for employees who might use such stairs, it must be designed, installed, used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with the following requirements:

- a. The stair will be installed at a 70-degree angle or less.
- b. The stair shall be capable of withstanding a minimum uniform load of 100 pounds per square foot with a design factor of 1.7 and the treads shall be capable of carrying a minimum concentrated load of 300 pounds at the center of any tread pan or exterior arc with a design factor of 1.7. If intended for greater loading, construction shall allow for that loading.
- c. The stair shall be equipped with a handrail on each side to assist the user in climbing or descending the stair.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This memorandum is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.