

South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
Division of Labor
Office of Occupational Safety and Health
Columbia, South Carolina 29211

OSH Program Directive Number 79-1910.219-5 (REVISED)

Subject: Classification of Article VI, Section 1910.219, the Terms “Enclosed” and “Fully Enclosed”, as Applying to Power Transmission Belts.

Standard: Article VI, Section 1910.219 (e), Rules and Regulations, Commissioner of Labor, State of South Carolina.

Cross Reference to Federal Standards: 29 CFR 1910.219 (e).

Background: In some instances the application of “enclosed” and “fully enclosed” has been interpreted to mean that all four sides of a power transmission belt must be covered even when guarding by location has been accomplished by the belts running close enough to walls and other objects to present no exposure to employees.

Interpretation:

- (a) Where there is no employee exposure to power transmission belts because they are naturally guarded by location, then no enclosure or guarding is required on the side next to the wall or object.
- (b) “Enclosure”, as used in Article VI, Section 1910.219 (e) (ii), for vertical and inclined belts is intended to mean only the portion of a belt seven (7) feet or less from the floor is required to be enclosed by a guard.
- (c) “Fully Enclosed” applies to the sides of a power transmission system not guarded by location as described in Article VI, Section 1910.219 (e) (1) (i) which includes both runs of a horizontal belt, pulley and flywheel (small units with slightly inclined belts are included in this category).
- (d) For the textile industry only the NIP point of the belt and pulley must be guarded as described in Section 1910.219 (a) (3).
- (e) Belts that are partially guarded or guarded by location and present no exposure to employees, unless by intentional or deliberate act, are not required to be fully enclosed.

Effective Date: This instruction is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by amendment to the Rules and Regulations.

William M. Lybrand, Director
September 21, 1979