

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 80-1910.252-1 (REVISED)**

**Subject:** Replacement Welding Tips As Related to Article VI, Section 1910.252 (a) (1) (iii).

**Standard:** Article VI, Section 1910.252 (a) (1) (iii).

**Cross Reference to Federal Standards:** 29 CFR 1910.252 (a) (1) (iii).

**Background:** Numerous requests for clarification have been received from employers and manufacturers concerned with the application of the term “approved apparatus” to replacement welding tips and convertor/adaptors (used for mounting tips). These inquiries were prompted by the fact that nationally recognized testing laboratories will not accept tips or convertor/adaptors for testing except as part of a completely assembled torch.

This directive replaces OSH Program Directive number 73-1910.252-1 (formerly Interpretative Bulletin #73-18-1).

**Interpretation:** Use of replacement tips will not nullify the “approved apparatus” status of a torch, if such replacement tips are made to the same specifications as the original tip of the torch at the time of approval by the nationally recognized testing laboratory, or if the use of such tips in conjunction with convertor/adaptors results in the same specifications as the original tip at the time of approval by the nationally recognized testing laboratory.

**Effective Date:** This instruction is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by amendment to the Rules and Regulations.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  
August 1, 1980