

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 78-1910.106-7

Subject: Article VI, Section 1910.106 (a) (14), “Flashpoint” – Acceptable Method of Determining Flashpoint.

Standard: Article VI, Section 1910.106 (a) (14), Rules and Regulations, Commissioner of Labor, State of South Carolina.

Cross Reference to Federal Standards: 29 CFR 1910.106 (a) (14).

Background:

- a. A federal OSHA staff member has been active on the American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM) Ad-Hoc Committee on Flashpoint Methodology and Government Response. This committee has been actively engaged in a program that would lead to the standardization of methods for determining flashpoints that would be acceptable throughout the world. The committee chairman has petitioned federal OSHA to amend 29 CFR 1910.106 (a) (14) to permit the Setaflash Tester methods to be used as alternates to the Tag and Pensky-Martens Closed Testers methods contained in the definition of flammable and combustible liquids.
- b. The Setaflash method, ASTM D3278-73 (Flashpoint of Liquids by Setaflash Closed Tester), has been accepted by the U. S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) as an acceptable method for determining the flashpoint of liquids.
- c. The adoption by federal OSHA of the Setaflash method as an acceptable method of determining the flashpoint of liquids would result in this agency being in conformity with other regulatory agencies. In addition, the Setaflash method for determining the flashpoint of liquids, ASTM D3278-73, will not have a lessening effect on the safety and health of employees conducting the tests or the eventual users of the liquids classified by this method.

Interpretation: Until such time as the referenced standard is revised to incorporate the use of Setaflash Testing Methods, the use of such methods will be cited as de minimus under the standard.

Effective Date: This instruction is effective upon receipt and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded by amendment to the regulation or program directive.

William M. Lybrand, Director
March 3, 1978