SUBJECT: Safety Standards for General Industry and Construction; Final Rule; and Technical Amendments

A. Purpose.

This directive transmits the above-referenced Safety Standards and amendments for General Industry and Construction to field personnel. This Program Directive is an internal guideline, not a statutory or regulatory rule, and is intended to provide instructions to VOSH personnel regarding internal operation of the Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Program and is solely for the benefit of the program. This document is not subject to the Virginia Register Act or the Administrative Process Act; it does not have general application and is not being enforced as having the force of law.

B. Scope.

This directive applies VOSH-wide.

C. Action.

The Assistant Commissioner, Directors and Supervisors shall assure that employers comply with the requirements of the Safety Standards for General Industry and Construction as revised.

D. Effective Date.

March 1, 1994.

E. Expiration Date.

Not Applicable.

F. Background.

The Safety and Health Codes has already adopted at various times during the existence of the VOSH program the standards affected by this collection of final rules. On November 15, 1993, the Safety and Health Codes Board adopted an identical version of federal OSHA's technical amendments to the final rules collectively entitled, "Safety Standards for General Industry and Construction." These technical amendments were published by federal OSHA in the Federal Register on June 30, 1993 (58 Fed. Reg. 35306). They are necessary to update and correct existing standards by reflecting the necessary to update and correct existing
standards by reflecting the various changes in the names and addresses of certain agencies and organizations whose standards were adopted by federal OSHA under section 6(a) of the federal Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act.

G. Summary.

On November 15, 1993, the Safety and Health Codes Board adopted the technical amendments to the Safety Standards for General Industry and Construction. These technical amendments consist of nomenclature changes, address changes, and minor technical amendments to occupational safety and health standards for general industry and construction.

Additionally, these changes, many of which resulted from federal OSHA's redesignation of existing construction standards in Part 1926, reflect transfers of authority and editorial corrections to general industry and construction standards that have not undergone recent revision. An example of the type of changes made includes the replacement of the Atomic Energy Commission by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the transfer of certain regulatory authority from the Internal Revenue Service to the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms.

Typographical errors were corrected in tables of decompression times for employees who work in compressed air environments. In addition, typographical errors were corrected in tables of rated capacities for different sizes, configurations, and types of wire rope and synthetic web slings.

Carol Amato
Commissioner


Distribution:  Commissioner of Labor and Industry
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