

**VOSH PROGRAM DIRECTIVE:** 12-423

**ISSUED:** June 1, 2013

**SUBJECT:** Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories, §1910.1450: (Non-Mandatory) Appendix A—National Research Council Recommendations concerning Chemical Hygiene in Laboratories; Technical Amendment

**Purpose.** The purpose of this update is to use the 2011 Edition of “Prudent Practices” as the basis for non-mandatory Appendix A because of its wide distribution and acceptance as well as its preparation by recognized authorities in the laboratory community.

*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.*

**Scope.** The directive applies to all VOSH personnel and specifically to Occupational Health Compliance and Consultation Services personnel.

**Reference.** 78 FR 4324 (January 22, 2013)

**Cancellation.** Not Applicable.

**Effective Date.** June 15, 2013

**Action.** Directors and Managers shall ensure that VOSH personnel understand and enforce the requirements of the standard transmitted by the Program Directive.

Courtney M. Malveaux  
Commissioner

E-Attachment: [http://www.osha.gov/FedReg\\_osha\\_pdf/FED20130122.pdf](http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_osha_pdf/FED20130122.pdf)

Distribution: Commissioner of Labor and Industry  
Assistant Commissioner  
VOSH Directors and Managers  
Legal Support and IMIS Staffs

Cooperative Programs Manager  
VOSH Compliance and Cooperative Programs Staffs  
OSHA Region III and OSHA Norfolk Area Offices

## **I. Background**

In 1990, the Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories standard was published. At that time, the non-mandatory Appendix A was based on the 1981 edition of “Prudent Practices for Handling Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories” and the 1983 edition of “Prudent Practices for Disposal of Chemicals from Laboratories”, which were both published by the National Academy Press. There have been many subsequent changes in the culture of safety in laboratories since 1983. The National Academies of Science (NAS) recognized these changes and revised and updated earlier “Prudent Practices,” which are reflected in the 2011 edition of “Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Management of Chemical Hazards” (National Academies Press). Federal OSHA reviewed the 2011 edition and collaborated with the NAS to revise non-mandatory Appendix A.

## **II. Summary**

Federal OSHA updated a non-mandatory Appendix in its Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories standard to include the contents of the latest National Academy of Sciences publication entitled, “Prudent Practices in the Laboratory: Handling and Management of Chemical Hazards,” 2011 edition. This new revision addresses current laboratory practices, security, and emergency response, as well as promoting safe handling of highly toxic and explosive chemicals and their waste products. All revisions made were minor and non-substantive.

**Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories Standard, §1910.1450;  
Technical Amendment to Appendix A, National Research Council Recommendations Concerning Chemical Hygiene  
in Laboratories (Non-Mandatory)**

As Adopted by the  
Safety and Health Codes Board

Date: March 14, 2013



VIRGINIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAM

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY

Effective Date: June 15, 2013

16VAC25-90-1910.1450, Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories, §1910.1450

When the regulations, as set forth in the Technical Amendment to the National Research Council Recommendations Concerning Chemical Hygiene in Laboratories, (Non-Mandatory) Appendix A, of the Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories Standard, §1910.1450, are applied to the Commissioner of the Department of Labor and Industry and/or to Virginia employers, the following federal terms shall be considered to read as below:

Federal Terms

VOSH Equivalent

29 CFR

VOSH Standard

Assistant Secretary

Commissioner of Labor and  
Industry

Agency

Department

January 22, 2013

June 15, 2013