



VOSH PROGRAM DIRECTIVE: 02-423

ISSUED: June 15, 1991

SUBJECT: Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories

A. **Purpose.**

This directive establishes procedures for uniform enforcement of the standard for Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories (1910.1450).

B. **Scope.**

This directive applies to all VOSH Personnel and specifically to Occupational Health Enforcement and Voluntary Compliance Personnel.

C. **Reference.**

55 Fed. Reg. 3300 (Jan 31, 1990)  
VOSH Program Directive 12-428 (Sept. 14, 1990)

D. **Cancellation.**

Not Applicable

E. **Action**

The Assistant Commissioner, Directors and Supervisors shall assure that employers understand the provisions of this Directive and comply with the policies and procedures contained in it.

F. **Effective Date**

The effective date is June 22, 1990.

G. **Expiration Date**

Not Applicable

H. **Background**

See VOSH Program Directive 12-428 (Sept. 14, 1990)

I. **Summary**

This standard applies to all laboratories that use hazardous chemicals in accordance with the definition of "laboratory use" and "laboratory scale" in accordance with the definition in the standard. Among other requirements, the standard provides for employee training and information, medical consultation and examinations, hazard identification, respirator use and recordkeeping. To the extent possible the standard allows a large measure of flexibility in compliance methods.

For labs covered by this standard, the obligation to maintain employee exposures at or below PELs in 1910 Subpart Z is retained. However, the manner in which this obligation is achieved will be determined by each employer through the development and implementation of a Chemical Hygiene Plan.

J. Standard with Citation and Compliance Guidelines

(Standard with Compliance guidelines are available upon request as a hard copy only)

Carol Amato  
Commissioner

Attachment: none

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