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*** PLEASE DO NOT SELECT "REPLY" ***

THIS EMAIL HAS BEEN ROUTED TO YOU THROUGH AN AUTOMATED FEDERAL OSHA SYSTEM.
PLEASE REFER TO THE INFORMATION BELOW.

Disclaimer

Responses to the Electronic Mail Forms are for informational purposes only, and do not constitute an official communication of the U.S. Department of Labor or OSHA. For an official response, please submit your inquiry in writing.

Topic & Question

Topic: Other

Many OSHA requirements are based on older editions of National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes and standards. In some cases, the NFPA codes/standards have been updated and the OSHA regulation is now inconsistent with the current NFPA document. Question: Has OSHA issued an LOI or other correspondence that indicates compliance with current editions of national codes and standards is considered to be compliant with the OSHA regulation? Thank you.

Submit Date: 11-JAN-24 10:36:55 AM

OSHA Response(s)

Thank you for your inquiry to OSHA concerning industry consensus standards and current OSHA standards and regulations. You can find the information you requested in the OSHA resource(s) listed below:

OSHA has Letters of Interpretation published to the public regarding compliance with current applicable industry consensus standards. A few examples are listed below. In general, OSHA stated, Compliance with the requirements of current applicable industry consensus standards is regarded as a "de minimis" departure from the OSHA requirements, if the consensus standards provide for equal or greater personnel protection than corresponding OSHA standards. (Letter to Ms. Herald, dated July 7, 2003). OSHA's Field Operation Manual (FOM) in Chapter 4 Section VIII De Minimis Conditions provides guidance on De Minimis Conditions which includes An employer complies with a proposed OSHA standard or amendment or a consensus standard rather than with the standard in effect at the time of the inspection, and the employer's action clearly provides equal or greater employee protection.

<https://www.osha.gov/fom/chapter-4>

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/1987-08-14>

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/1985-12-16>

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/2001-09-17>

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/2003-07-07-3>

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/2006-07-17-0>

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/2008-09-29>

The following provide links to OSHA's letters of interpretation, publications, and safety and health topics pages:

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/publicationdate/currentyear>

<https://www.osha.gov/publications>

<https://www.osha.gov/topics>

The following provide links to OSHA's worker rights, complaint, and whistleblower web pages:

Worker rights and complaint information

<https://www.osha.gov/workers>

Whistleblower Program information

<https://www.whistleblowers.gov/>

https://www.whistleblowers.gov/complaint_page

In addition, the following link to OSHA's frequently asked questions page may also be useful:

<https://www.osha.gov/faq>

If these references do not help you or if after reviewing this information you have questions about OSHA regulations and compliance with them, the most timely way to get an answer to your question is to contact OSHA during weekly business hours of 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. eastern time by calling toll free 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), press option 4. You may also contact your local area office.

To find contact information for your local OSHA area office, please use this weblink - <https://www.osha.gov/contactus/bystate>.

If you choose, you may write a formal letter describing the particulars of your workplace and question. To send a formal letter, please write to:

U.S. Department of Labor OSHA
Directorate of Enforcement Programs
200 Constitution Avenue, N.W.
Room N3119
Washington, D.C., 20210

Thank you for your interest in safety and health.