

PROGRAM DIRECTIVE

Program Directive A-29
Issued January 1, 1979
Revised May 8, 2000

SUBJECT: Flammable and Combustible Liquids: Acceptable Method of Determining Flashpoints

AFFECTED CODES/

DIRECTIVES: OAR 437-02-1910.106(a)(14), Subdivision H, Hazardous Materials

PURPOSE: To provide additional guidelines in the application of the subject standard as it relates to various methods for determination of "flashpoint" acceptable to the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division.

BACKGROUND:

- A. OSHA has been active on the American Society for Testing of Materials (ASTM) Ad-Hoc Committee on Flash Point Methodology and Government Response. This committee has been actively engaged in a program that would lead to the standardization of methods for determining flash-points that would be acceptable throughout the world. The committee chairman has petitioned federal OSHA to amend 1910.106(a)(14), Hazardous Materials 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 and the National Fire Protection Association as an acceptable method for determining the flashpoint of liquids.
- C. The adoption by 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.

ACTION: 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 minimal under the standard.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.