



# MEDIA RELEASE

Jobs are Alaska's Future



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## For Immediate Release

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### **Respirator rules strengthened for Alaska workers**

(Juneau) – Effective February 24, 2007, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development will adopt amended federal standards for respirators used by workers exposed to atmospheric contaminants in industries including construction, shipyards, longshoring and marine terminals.

State regulatory compliance is a responsibility of the state labor department Alaska Occupational Safety and Health section, or AKOSH, in the Division of Labor Standards and Safety.

Labor Standards and Safety Director Grey Mitchell said the state meets standards of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration, or OSHA, as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor.

Mitchell said OSHA revised the federal respiratory protection standard to add definitions and requirements known as Assigned Protection Factors and Maximum Use Concentrations (APFs and MUCs).

Amended regulations are published in the Federal Register and on the Alaska Online Public Notice System. The information also is available from Jenny George at 907.465.4855 or [jenny\\_george@labor.state.ak.us](mailto:jenny_george@labor.state.ak.us).

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