

Click Bishop
Commissioner

P.O. Box 111149
Juneau, AK 99811-1149
www.labor.alaska.gov



Beth Leschper
Communications Director
907.465.2700
cell: 907.723.1321
beth.leschper@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Nov. 16, 2009

No. 09-64

For more information: Grey Mitchell, Labor Standards and Safety Director
907-465-4855

AKOSH Adopts Updated References on Acetylene Standard

JUNEAU, Alaska—Federal OSHA has adopted the Acetylene Standard for general industry by updating references to standards published by Standards Developing Organizations, effective Nov. 9.

The Alaska Occupational Safety and Health program is required by Alaska Statute 18.60.303(6) to maintain standards that are at least as effective as federal OSHA standards. Through the Alaska Online Public Notice System, AKOSH sought comment on the proposed Acetylene Standard Updates.

Under 8AAC 61.1010(a), AKOSH has adopted the federal regulation for Acetylene, as amended. As a result, AKOSH is providing this notice of amendment to the acetylene standard to assist employees and employers in Alaska to recognize the change and take action.

This direct final rule updates the standards published by SDO that comprise the Acetylene Standard. The Compressed Gas Association published several editions of these SDO standards after OSHA adopted them in 1974, and one of these standards (*i.e.*, Compressed Gas Association Pamphlet G-1.4-1966), is no longer available for purchase from CGA. Therefore, to ensure that employers have access to the latest safety requirements for managing acetylene, this rulemaking is adopting the requirements specified in the most recent versions of the SDO standards.

The direct final rule is available online: <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-18644.pdf>.

For more information email Lani Mikelski (lani.mikelski@alaska.gov) or call 907-465-4855.

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