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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 21, 2010

No. 10-36

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AKOSH Adopts Updated Steel Standards

JUNEAU, Alaska—Alaska has adopted an Occupational Safety and Health Administration amendment to standards governing steel erection.

For projects involving bridge construction and temporary bracing, in many cases a registered engineer must prepare and seal working drawings associated with the support system. The technical amendment, effective May 17, 2010, is a non-mandatory note to the OSHA standards governing steel erection and provides information regarding existing Federal Highway Administration regulations that may apply to employers engaged in activities covered by OSHA's steel erection standards.

While this note does not impose additional or more stringent requirements on employers than existing OSHA standards, it provides information that will enhance the safety of employees working on or near temporary bracing systems or other structural steel elements.

OSHA steel standards enhance protection to iron workers by addressing the hazards that have been identified as the major causes of injuries and fatalities in the steel erection industry.

Complete descriptions of the changes are online at http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_oseha_pdf/FED20100517.pdf or by contacting Krystyna Markiewicz at 907-269-4955.

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