

PROGRAM DIRECTIVE

Program Directive A-51
Issued August 10, 1979
Revised March 9, 2001

SUBJECT: Guarding: Power Transmission Belts

AFFECTED CODES/

DIRECTIVES: OAR 437-02-1910.219(e)(1)(i) to 1910.219(o)(3)(ii); OSHA Instruction STD 1-12.14, and IM-88-12

PURPOSE: To provide clarification of the application of "enclosed" and "fully enclosed" as applying to power transmission belts, and guarding by location.

BACKGROUND: Application of "enclosed" and "fully enclosed" has been interpreted to mean that all four sides of a power transmission belt must be covered by an enclosure. This application has been enforced even when guarding by location has been accomplished by the belts running close enough to walls or other objects to prevent exposure to employees.

ACTION:

- A. When there is no employee exposure (past, present, or future) to power transmission belts because they are naturally guarded by location, then no enclosure or guarding is required.
- B. "Enclosure," as used in 1910.219(e)(3)(ii), for vertical and inclined belts means only that portion of a belt within 7 feet of the floor is required to be enclosed by a guard.
- C. "Fully enclosed" applies to the sides of a power transmission system not guarded by location as described in 1910.219(e)(1)(i), which includes both runs of a horizontal belt, pulley or flywheel (small units with slightly inclined belts are included in this category).

EFFECTIVE

DATE: This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.