

## PROGRAM DIRECTIVE

Program Directive A-130  
Issued June 1, 1982  
Revised March 9, 2001

**SUBJECT:** Stairs: Alternating Tread Type Stairs

**AFFECTED CODES/**

**DIRECTIVES:** OAR 437-02 Subdivision D, Ladders and Scaffolds

**PURPOSE:** To recognize the use of alternating tread stairways.

**BACKGROUND:** This program directive recognizes a newly developed alternating tread type stair not presently covered by existing rules. Based on an OSHA National Office review, it appears that if the stair meets the design requirements in section (2) of this directive, and if properly installed, used and maintained, it will meet the intent of our rules.

**ACTION:** Currently OR-OSHA has no rule relating to the alternating tread type stair. In order to provide safety for employees who might use such stairs, it must be designed, installed, used and maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations and in accordance with the following requirements:

- A. The stair must be installed at a 70 degree angle or less.
- B. The stair shall be capable of withstanding a minimum uniform load of 100 pounds per square foot with a design safety factor of 1.7 and the treads shall be capable of carrying a minimum concentrated load of 300 pounds at the center of any treadspan or exterior arc with a design safety factor of 1.7. If intended for greater loading, construction shall allow for that loading.
- C. The stair shall be equipped with a handrail on each side to assist the user in climbing or descending the stair.

**EFFECTIVE**

**DATE:** This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.