SUBJECT: Guarding: Cut-Off Wheels and Masonry Saws

AFFECTED CODES/DIRECTIVES: 1910.215, 1926.303 and 1926.702

PURPOSE: To provide guidelines for citing violations related to guards for cutoff wheels and masonry saws used in General Industry and Construction.

SCOPE: This instruction applies to all Oregon OSHA

REFERENCE: STD 01-12-026 September 26, 1994


ANSI has since issued revised ANSI B7.1 standards dated 1978 and 1988, which now permit a maximum angular exposure of 180 degrees.

The existing Oregon OSHA General Industry regulation was adopted from the ANSI B7.1-1970 standard. Oregon OSHA has no information to support that the difference between 150 degrees and 180 degrees maximum angular exposure has any direct and immediate relationship to safety and health.

ACTION:

A. When the guard for a cut-off wheel (not masonry) fails to comply with the 150 degree maximum angular exposure required by 1910.215(b)(5) or 1926.303(d), but does not allow greater than 180 degrees maximum angular exposure, the violation will be treated as de minimis.

B. In construction, the existing Oregon OSHA regulations, 1926.303(c)(5) for abrasive wheels and 1926.702(i) for masonry saws allow a 180 degree angle of exposure.
EFFECTIVE:

This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.