SUBJECT: Guarding: Woodworking Machinery

AFFECTED CODES/DIRECTIVES: OAR 437-02-1910.213(d)(1) and 1910.213(g)(1), Machinery and Machine Guarding

PURPOSE: To provide guidance in the application of 1910.213 (d)(1) and 1910.213(g)(1) by specifying the degree of violation for manually adjusted guards for hand-fed ripsaws and swing cutoff saws.

BACKGROUND: This directive was developed to inform field personnel of the alternate methods of meeting the intent of 1910.213(d)(1) and 1910.213(g)(1) to eliminate employee exposure to point of operation hazards.

ACTION: 
A. In those instances where fixed enclosures, fixed barrier guards, or manually adjusted guards are used that provide protection equivalent to the protection of automatically adjusted guards, thereby preventing employee exposure to the saw blade, no citation shall be issued.

B. Accordingly, when a fixed enclosure, fixed barrier, or manually adjusted guard is used instead of an automatic guard, it shall be considered minimal. That is, provided the guards are used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and under sufficient supervision to ensure consistent compliance with these instructions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.