SUBJECT: Guarding: Awareness Barriers Metal Cutting Shears


PURPOSE: This instruction provides guidance for applying awareness barrier safeguards as installed on metal cutting shears.

BACKGROUND: This directive updates ANSI references from the previous directive. The revised ANSI standard provides additional guidance on design and use of awareness barriers.

ACTION: OHSA compliance staff shall accept properly applied awareness barrier safeguarding specified by ANSI B11.4-1993, Sections 6.3.3. through 6.4 (which include references to ANSI B11.19-1990, paragraphs 4.2.1, 4.3, 4.4.3.3 and Section 5 for safeguarding methods), as an acceptable form of point of operation safeguarding on metal cutting shears for situations in which it is impossible to employ a fixed guard or point of operation device due to the diversity of operations on the shear (where it is not possible to conform with the guidelines of Table 1, Column B of ANSI B11.4-1993).

EFFECTIVE DATE: This directive is effective immediately and will remain in effect until cancelled or superseded.