



Risk Management & Safety
Safety Standard Change Notification
January 12, 2017

This sheet highlights significant changes to safety standards and provides direction to UNLV departments and colleges on how they are affected by these changes.

Effective Date: 3/12/2017

Title: Beryllium 1910.1024 (General Industry), welding & dental laboratories
1926.1124 (Construction), welding

Compliance Dates:

- Employers are required to comply with most of the obligations of the standards by March 12, 2018.
- Employers must provide the required change rooms and showers beginning on March 11, 2019.
- Employers are required to implement the engineering controls requirement beginning on March 10, 2020.

Subject Area: Generation and Inhalation of Beryllium Dust, Fume and Mist Due to Work Processes.

Summary of Changes:

1. Reduces the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) for beryllium to 0.2 micrograms per cubic meter of air, averaged over an 8 hour shift and establishes a short-term minute exposure limit (STEL) of 2.0 micrograms per cubic meter of air over a 15 minute sampling period.
2. Requires employers to:
 - Use engineering and work practice controls to prevent excessive beryllium from becoming airborne where workers can breathe it in.
 - Limit access to high-exposure areas, provide respiratory protection when necessary, and provide personal protective clothing when high exposures or dermal contact is possible.
 - Assess exposures, develop and implement written exposure control plans, and provide workers with training specific to beryllium.
 - Offer medical examinations to certain exposed workers. If a specified beryllium-related health effect is identified, offer additional workplace accommodations to the worker to reduce beryllium exposures.

Impact of Changes:

1. Departments should evaluate operations in which beryllium dust, fumes and mist may be generated.
2. Departments should determine operations which could be controlled by product substitution, ventilation, or limiting employee access.
3. Departments should send employees to training and provide PPE, when required.
4. RMS will develop an exposure control plan and training to meet this requirement.

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