U.S. Federal Register Update: September 13 – September 17, 2021

The U.S. Federal Register Update contains summaries of entries in the U.S. Federal Register that may be of particular interest to the standards and conformity assessment community. This update is provided on a weekly basis by ANSI as a service to its members as part of the Institute’s e-newsletter, What's New?

Notification of Document Availability and Reopening of Comment Period on Request for Information: Minimum Standards for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards Acceptable by Federal Agencies for Official Purposes; Mobile Driver's Licenses
Published 9/16/2021
Reference ANSI, IEC, ISO
The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) issued a Request for Information (RFI) entitled, “Minimum Standards for Driver's Licenses and Identification Cards Acceptable by Federal Agencies for Official Purposes; Mobile Driver's Licenses” in April 2021 that referenced a draft industry standard of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), ISO/IEC 18013-5. Through this document, DHS is announcing that the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is making a view-only version of the draft industry standard available to the public. DHS is also announcing the reopening of the public comment period for the RFI for an additional 30 days to provide additional time for commenters to consider the draft industry standard. DHS will consider all comments received from April 19, 2021, through October 18, 2021. The comment period for the RFI published at 86 FR 20320 (April 19, 2021) and extended at 86 FR 31987 (June 16, 2021) is reopened through October 18, 2021. To be considered by DHS, written comments and related material must be submitted on or before this date.

Energy Conservation Program: Proposed Determination of Air Cleaners as a Covered Consumer Product
Published 9/16/2021
Reference ANSI, AHAM
The U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) has tentatively determined that air cleaners qualify as a covered product under Part A of Title III of the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (“EPCA”), as amended. DOE has tentatively determined that coverage of air cleaners is necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes of EPCA, and that the average U.S. household energy use for air cleaners is likely to exceed 100 kilowatt-hours per year. Written comments, data, and information are requested and will be accepted on or before November 15, 2021.

Seamless Carbon and Alloy Steel Standard, Line and Pressure Pipe From the People's Republic of China: Continuation of Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Orders
Published 9/14/2021
Reference ASTM
As a result of the determinations by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) that revocation of the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on seamless carbon and alloy steel standard, line and pressure pipe (SSLP) from the People's Republic of China (China) would likely lead to a continuation or recurrence of dumping, countervailable subsidies, and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is publishing a notice of continuation of the AD and CVD orders. Applicable September 14, 2021.

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Analysis of Exoskeleton-Use for Enhancing Human Performance Data Collection
Published 9/14/2021
Reference ASTM, NIST
The Department of Commerce, in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA), invites the general public and other Federal agencies to comment on proposed, and continuing information collections, which helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public’s reporting burden. The purpose of this notice is to allow for 60 days of public comment preceding submission of the collection to OMB. To ensure consideration, comments regarding this proposed information collection must be received on or before November 15, 2021.

National Volatile Organic Compound Emission Standards for Aerosol Coatings Amendments
Published 9/17/2021
Reference ASTM
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is proposing to amend the National Volatile Organic Compound (VOC) Emission Standards for Aerosol Coatings, which establishes reactivity-based emission standards for the aerosol coatings category (aerosol spray paints) under the Clean Air Act (CAA). In this action, the EPA is proposing to update coating category product-weighted reactivity limits for aerosol coatings categories; add new compounds and reactivity factors (RFs); update existing reactivity values; revise the default RF; amend the thresholds for compounds regulated by this document; and add electronic reporting provisions. Comments. Comments must be received on or before November 16, 2021. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA), comments on the information collection provisions are best assured of consideration if the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) receives a copy of your comments on or before October 18, 2021. Public Hearing: If anyone contacts us requesting a public hearing on or before September 22, 2021, the Agency will hold a virtual public hearing. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for information on requesting and registering for a public hearing.

Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations; Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan Regulations; Atlantic Coastal Fisheries Cooperative Management Act Provisions; American Lobster Fishery
Published 9/17/2021
Reference IEC
NMFS is amending the regulations implementing the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan to reduce the incidental mortality and serious injury to North Atlantic right whales (Eubalaena glacialis), fin whales (Balaenoptera physalus), and humpback whales (Megaptera novaeangliae) in northeast commercial lobster and Jonah crab trap/pot fisheries to meet the goals of the Marine Mammal Protection Act and the Endangered Species Act. In addition, this action also makes a small revision to Federal regulations implemented under the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission's Interstate Fishery Management Plan for American Lobster to increase the maximum length of a lobster trap trawl groundline. This action is necessary to reduce the risks to North Atlantic right whales and other large whales associated with the presence of fishing gear in waters used by these animals. This rule is effective October 18, 2021. Compliance for 50 CFR 229.32(b)(2)(i), (b)(3), (c)(2)(i) through (iv), and (c)(8) and (9) is not required until May 1, 2022 (see SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for more details).

Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Distribution Transformers
Published 9/14/2021
Reference IEEE, NEMA
The U.S. Department of Energy ("DOE") is amending the test procedure for distribution transformers to revise and add definitions of certain terms, update provisions based on the latest versions of relevant industry testing standards, and to specify the basis for voluntary representations at additional per-unit loads and additional reference temperatures. The updates in this final rule will not significantly change the test procedure. The effective date of this rule is October 14, 2021. The final rule changes will be mandatory for product testing starting March 14, 2022.

Regulation of Persistent, Bioaccumulative, and Toxic Chemicals Under TSCA Section 6(h); Phenol, Isopropylated Phosphate (3:1); Compliance Date Extension
Published 9/17/2021
Reference NEMA
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is amending the regulations applicable to phenol, isopropylated phosphate (3:1) (PIP (3:1)) promulgated under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Specifically, EPA is extending the compliance date applicable to the processing and distribution in commerce of certain PIP (3:1)-containing articles, and the PIP (3:1) used to make those articles from March 8, 2021, to March 8, 2022. For such articles, EPA is also extending the compliance date for the recordkeeping requirements applicable to manufacturers, processors, and distributors from March 8, 2021, to March 8, 2022. The articles covered by this amendment include a wide range of key consumer and commercial goods such as cellular telephones, laptop computers, and other electronic and electrical devices and industrial and commercial equipment used in various sectors including transportation, life sciences, and semiconductor production. This final rule is effective on September 17, 2021.

Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education, and Promotion Order
Published 9/15/2021
Reference NIST
This final rule sets forth the proposed Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education, and Promotion Order, as authorized by the Concrete Masonry Products Research, Education, and Promotion Act of 2018, which establishes a Concrete Masonry
Products Board (Board) composed of industry members appointed by the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to develop and implement programs of research, education, and promotion in the concrete masonry products industry. This final rule: Defines the purpose of the program; provides for a national Board, outlining its basic structure and defining its responsibilities; establishes an assessment and provides for its collection; outlines program funding and its limits to program activities; establishes recordkeeping requirements; sets out the Department’s authority to review and approve program activities; outlines the Department’s enforcement authority; and sets up a referendum to determine whether the Department will rescind this Order. Effective date: November 29, 2021. If the referendum fails, the Department will publish a document in the Federal Register to withdraw this final rule before the effective date. Referendum dates: Registration to participate in the referendum began following the publication of the final rule on referendum procedures (86 FR 23271, May 3, 2021). The referendum period will conclude after thirty days or once all registrants have voted, whichever occurs first. The referendum begins October 15, 2021. See SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION for more information and details regarding referendum. The Department must receive ballots no later than midnight of the final day of the referendum period on November 15, 2021.