U.S. Federal Register Update: June 21 – June 25, 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?

MET Laboratories, Inc.: Grant of Expansion of Recognition
Published 6/24/2021
Reference ANSI, UL
In this notice, OSHA announces the final decision to expand the scope of recognition for MET Laboratories, Inc., as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL). The expansion of the scope of recognition becomes effective on June 24, 2021.

Occupational Exposure to COVID-19; Emergency Temporary Standard
Published 6/21/2021
Reference ANSI, ASHRAE, ASSP, ASTM, ISO
The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is issuing an emergency temporary standard (ETS) to protect healthcare and healthcare support service workers from occupational exposure to COVID-19 in settings where people with COVID-19 are reasonably expected to be present. During the period of the emergency standard, covered healthcare employers must develop and implement a COVID-19 plan to identify and control COVID-19 hazards in the workplace. Covered employers must also implement other requirements to reduce transmission of COVID-19 in their workplaces, related to the following: Patient screening and management; Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions; personal protective equipment (PPE), including facemasks or respirators; controls for aerosol-generating procedures; physical distancing of at least six feet, when feasible; physical barriers; cleaning and disinfection; ventilation; health screening and medical management; training; anti-retaliation; recordkeeping; and reporting. The standard encourages vaccination by requiring employers to provide reasonable time and paid leave for employee vaccinations and any side effects. It also encourages use of respirators, where respirators are used in lieu of required facemasks, by including a mini respiratory protection program that applies to such use. Finally, the standard exempts from coverage certain workplaces where all employees are fully vaccinated and individuals with possible COVID-19 are prohibited from entry; and it exempts from some of the requirements of the standard fully vaccinated employees in well-defined areas where there is no reasonable expectation that individuals with COVID-19 will be present. The rule is effective June 21, 2021. The incorporation by reference of certain publications listed in the rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of June 21, 2021.

Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Construction of the Vineyard Wind Offshore Wind Project
Published 6/25/2021
Reference ANSI
In accordance with the regulations implementing the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) as amended, notification is hereby given that NMFS has issued an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to Vineyard Wind 1, LLC (Vineyard Wind) to take, by Level A harassment and Level B harassment, marine mammals during construction of a commercial wind energy project offshore Massachusetts. The IHA is valid from May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2024.

Safety Standard for Infant Sleep Products
Published 6/23/2021
Reference ASTM, ISO
Pursuant to the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (CPSIA), the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) is issuing this final rule establishing a safety standard for infant sleep products, which are products marketed or intended to provide a sleeping accommodation for an infant up to 5 months of age, and that are not subject to any of CPSC’s mandatory standards for infant sleep. CPSC is also finalizing an amendment to its regulations regarding third party conformity assessment bodies, to include the safety standard for infant sleep products in the list of notices of requirements (NORs) and an amendment to the consumer registration rule, to identify infant sleep products as a durable infant or toddler product subject to consumer registration requirements, as a subcategory of bassinets and cradles. This rule is effective June 23, 2022. The incorporation by reference of the publication listed in this rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of June 23, 2022.
Seamless Refined Copper Pipe and Tube From the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value and Final Negative Determination of Critical Circumstances
Published 6/24/2021
Reference ASTM
The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that imports of seamless refined copper pipe and tube (copper pipe and tube) from the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The period of investigation (POI) is October 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020. Further, Commerce finds that critical circumstances do not exist. Applicable June 24, 2021.

Standard Steel Welded Wire Mesh From Mexico: Final Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value
Published 6/23/2021
Reference ASTM
The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that imports of standard steel welded wire mesh (wire mesh) from Mexico are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV) for the period of investigation April 1, 2019, through March 31, 2020. Applicable June 23, 2021.

Certain Steel Nails From the Republic of Korea, Malaysia, the Sultanate of Oman, Taiwan, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam: Continuation of Antidumping and Countervailing Duty Orders
Published 6/22/2021
Reference ASTM
As a result of the determinations by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the International Trade Commission (ITC) that revocation of the antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) orders on certain steel nails (steel nails) from the Republic of Korea (Korea), Malaysia, the Sultanate of Oman (Oman), Taiwan, and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (Vietnam) would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping, net countervailable subsidies, and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is publishing a notice of continuation of these AD and CVD orders. Applicable June 22, 2021.

Published 6/25/2021
Reference ASTM
The Department of Commerce (Commerce) preliminarily determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of common alloy aluminum sheet (aluminum sheet) from the People's Republic of China (China). The period of review (POR) is April 23, 2018, through December 31, 2019. Applicable June 25, 2021.

CSA Group Testing & Certification Inc.: Application for Expansion of Recognition
Published 6/24/2021
Reference CSA, NFPA, UL
In this notice, OSHA announces the applications of CSA Group Testing & Certification Inc. for expansion of recognition as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) and presents the agency's preliminary finding to grant the applications. Submit comments, information, and documents in response to this notice, or requests for an extension of time to make a submission, on or before July 9, 2021.

Petitions for Modification of Application of Existing Mandatory Safety Standards
Published 6/25/2021
Reference IEC, UL
This notice includes the summaries of three petitions for modification submitted to the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) by the party listed below. All comments on the petitions must be received by MSHA's Office of Standards, Regulations, and Variances on or before July 26, 2021.

Allocations, Common Application, Waivers, and Alternative Requirements for Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery Grantees; Electrical Power Systems in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands
Published 6/22/2021
On April 10, 2018, HUD allocated nearly $28 billion in Community Development Block Grant disaster recovery (CDBG-DR) funds appropriated by the Further Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Requirements Act, 2018. HUD allocated $10.03 billion for the purpose of addressing unmet needs from disasters that occurred in 2017; $2 billion for enhanced or improved electrical power systems in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands; and $15.9 billion for mitigation activities. This notice governs the use of the $2 billion CDBG-DR allocation for enhanced or improved electrical power systems in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. **Applicability Date: June 28, 2021.**

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**Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; NIST Generic Request for Customer Service-Related Data Collections**

Published 6/24/2021

Reference NIST

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite 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. Public comments were previously requested via the Federal Register on January 19, 2021 during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

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**Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads; Amendment**

Published 6/23/2021

Reference NIST

The Consumer Product Safety Commission (Commission, or CPSC) is issuing this final rule to amend its Standard for the Flammability of Mattresses and Mattress Pads. The ignition source cigarette specified in the standard for use in the mattress standard’s performance tests, Standard Reference Material cigarette SRM 1196, is no longer available for purchase. This final rule amends the mattress standard to require a revised Standard Reference Material cigarette, SRM 1196a, which was developed by the National Institute of Standards and Technology, as the ignition source for testing to the mattress standard. **This rule is effective July 23, 2021.**

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**Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Generic Clearance for Decision Science Data Collections**

Published 6/24/2021

Reference NIST

The Department of Commerce will submit the following information collection request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, on or after the date of publication of this notice. We invite 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. Public comments were previously requested via the Federal Register on March 15, 2021, during a 60-day comment period. This notice allows for an additional 30 days for public comments.

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**Privacy Act of 1974: Systems of Records**

Published 6/25/2021

Reference NIST

Pursuant to the Privacy Act of 1974, the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) gives notice of a new proposed Privacy Act system of records. The new proposed system is the Mailing, Contact and Other Lists System, NCUA-23. This system will support the NCUA’s communications and outreach efforts to members of the public, and the NCUA’s statutorily mandated examination and supervision activities of credit unions. This system will store information pertaining to individuals in the performance of the NCUA’s statutory duties. **Submit comments on or before July 26, 2021. This action will take effect without further notice on July 26, 2021 unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.**

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**Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records**

Published 6/23/2021

Reference NIST
As required by the Privacy Act of 1974, notice is hereby given that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is amending the system of records entitled, “Veteran, Patient, Employee, and Volunteer Research and Development Project Records—VA” (34VA12) as set forth in the Federal Register. VA is amending the system of records by revising the System Number; System Manager; Purpose of the System; Categories of Individuals Covered by the System; Categories of Records in the System; Record Source Categories; Routine Uses of Records Maintained in the System; Policies and Practices for Storage of Records; Policies and Practices for Retention and Disposal of Records; Physical, Procedural and Administrative Safeguards; Record Access Procedure; and Notification Procedure. VA is republishing the system notice in its entirety. **Comments on this amended system of records must be received no later than July 23, 2021.** If no public comment is received during the period allowed for comment or unless otherwise published in the Federal Register by the VA, the modified system of records will become effective a minimum of 30 days after date of publication in the Federal Register. If VA receives public comments, VA shall review the comments to determine whether any changes to the notice are necessary.

**TUV Rheinland of North America, Inc.: Application for Expansion of Recognition**

**Published 6/25/2021**

**Reference UL**

In this notice, OSHA announces the application of TUV Rheinland of North America, Inc., for expansion of the scope of recognition as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) and presents the agency’s preliminary finding to grant the application. **Submit comments, information, and documents in response to this notice, or requests for an extension of time to make a submission, on or before July 12, 2021.**