

U.S. Federal Register Update: March 19 – March 23, 2018

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?*

[Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Construction at the City Dock and Ferry Terminal, in Tenakee Springs, Alaska](#)

Published 3/20/2018

Reference ANSI, ISO

NMFS has received a request from the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities (ADOT&PF) for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to conducting improvements at the Tenakee Springs city dock and ferry terminal, in Tenakee Springs, Alaska. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to incidentally take marine mammals during the specified activities. NMFS will consider public comments prior to making any final decision on the issuance of the requested MMPA authorization, and agency responses will be summarized in the final notice of our decision. **Comments and information must be received no later than April 19, 2018.**

[Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed eCollection eComments Requested; Extension of Currently Approved Collection Customer Satisfaction Assessment Survey](#)

Published 3/23/2018

Reference ANSI

The Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Laboratory Division (LD) has submitted the following Information Collection Request to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and clearance in accordance with the established review procedures of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The proposed information collection is published to obtain comments from the public and affected agencies. This proposed information collection was previously published in the Federal Register allowing for a 60 day comment period. **Comments are encouraged and will be accepted for an additional days until April 23, 2018.**

[Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Confined Blasting Operations in the East Channel by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers During the Tampa Harbor Big Bend Channel Expansion Project in Tampa Harbor, Tampa, Florida](#)

Published 3/19/2018

Reference ANSI, ISO

NMFS has received a request from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, (USACE) for authorization to take marine mammals incidental to confined blasting in the East Channel of the Big Bend Channel in Tampa Harbor, Tampa, Florida. Pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), NMFS is requesting comments on its proposal to issue an incidental harassment authorization (IHA) to incidentally take marine mammals during the specified activities. NMFS will consider public comments prior to making any final decision on the issuance of the requested MMPA authorizations and agency responses will be summarized in the final notice of our decision. **Comments and information must be received no later than April 18, 2018.**

[Notice Pursuant to The National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993-American Society of Mechanical Engineers](#)

Published 3/19/2018

Reference ASME

Notice is hereby given that, on January 25, 2018, pursuant to Section 6(a) of the National Cooperative Research and Production Act of 1993, 15 U.S.C. 4301 et seq. ("the Act"), the American Society of Mechanical Engineers ("ASME") has filed written notifications simultaneously with the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission disclosing additions or changes to its standards development activities. The notifications were filed for the purpose of extending the Act's provisions limiting the recovery of antitrust plaintiffs to actual damages under specified circumstances. Specifically, since September 27, 2017, ASME has published one new standard and initiated four new standards activities within the general nature and scope of ASME's standards development activities, as specified in its original notification. More detail regarding these changes can be found at www.asme.org.

[Revisions to Method 301: Field Validation of Pollutant Measurement Methods From Various Waste Media](#)

Published 3/20/2018

Reference ASTM

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is publishing editorial and technical revisions to the EPA's Method 301 "Field Validation of Pollutant Measurement Methods from Various Waste Media" to correct and update the method. In addition, the EPA is clarifying the regulatory applicability of Method 301 as well as its suitability for use with other regulations. The revisions include ruggedness testing for validation of test methods intended for application at multiple sources, determination of the limit of detection for all method validations, incorporating procedures for determining the limit of detection, revising the sampling requirements for the method comparison procedure, adding storage and sampling procedures for sorbent sampling systems, and clarifying acceptable statistical results for candidate test methods. We are also clarifying the applicability of Method 301 to our regulations and adding equations to clarify calculation of the correction factor, standard deviation, estimated variance of a validated test method, standard deviation of differences, and t-statistic for all validation approaches. We have also made minor changes in response to public comments. Changes made to the Method 301 field validation protocol under this action apply only to methods submitted to the EPA for approval after the effective date of this final rule. **The final rule is effective on March 20, 2018.**

[Notice of Petition for Waiver of Huawei Technologies, Co. Ltd. From the Department of Energy External Power Supplies Test Procedure and Grant of Interim Waiver](#)

Published 3/23/2018

Reference IEC

This notice announces receipt of and publishes a petition for waiver from Huawei Technologies, Co. Ltd. ("Huawei") seeking an exemption from specified portions of the U.S. Department of Energy's ("DOE's") test procedure for determining external power supply ("EPS") energy efficiency. The waiver request pertains to adaptive EPSs that support a particular International Electrotechnical Commission standard. Under the existing DOE test procedure, the average active mode efficiency of an adaptive EPS must be tested at both its lowest and highest achievable output voltages. Huawei contends that since its specified products operate above 2 amps current at the lowest achievable output voltages under rare conditions and for only brief periods of time, the suggested alternate testing approach detailed in its waiver petition is needed to measure the active mode efficiency of such products in a representative manner. DOE is granting Huawei an interim waiver from the DOE EPS test procedure for the specified basic models of EPSs, subject to use of the alternate test procedure as set forth in this document and is soliciting comments, data, and information concerning the petition and the suggested alternate test procedure. **Written comments and information are requested and will be accepted on or before April 23, 2018.**

[Automation in the Railroad Industry](#)

Published 3/22/2018

Reference SAE

FRA requests information and comment on the future of automation in the railroad industry. FRA is interested in hearing from industry stakeholders, the public, local and State governments, and any other interested parties on the extent to which they believe railroad operations can (and should) be automated, and the potential benefits, costs, risks, and challenges to achieving such automation. FRA also seeks comment on how the agency can best support the railroad industry's development and implementation of new and emerging technologies in automation that will lead to continuous safety improvements and increased efficiencies in railroad operations. **Comments and information responsive to this request should be received by May 7, 2018.**

[Request for Information on Regulatory Challenges to Safely Transporting Hazardous Materials by Surface Modes in an Automated Vehicle Environment](#)

Published 3/22/2018

Reference SAE

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) requests information on matters related to the development and potential use of automated technologies for surface modes (i.e., highway and rail) in hazardous materials transportation. In anticipation of the development, testing, and integration of Automated Driving Systems in surface transportation, PHMSA is issuing this request for information on the factors the Agency should consider to ensure continued safe transportation of hazardous materials without impeding emerging surface transportation technologies. **Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before May 7, 2018. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent practicable.**

[BMW of North America, LLC-Receipt of Petition for Temporary Exemption From FMVSS No. 108 for Adaptive Driving Beam; BMW of North America, LLC and Volkswagen Group of America-Request for Certain Information To Support Petitions for Adaptive Driving Beams](#)

Published 3/22/2018

Reference SAE

In accordance with the procedures in 49 CFR part 555, BMW of North America, LLC has petitioned the Agency for a temporary exemption from certain headlamp requirements of FMVSS No. 108 to allow the use of its Glare-Free High Beam Assist, a type of ADB headlighting system. BMW requests the exemption on the basis that it would facilitate the development or field evaluation of a new motor vehicle safety feature providing a safety level at least equal to that of the standard. NHTSA has made no judgment on the merits of the application. This notice of receipt of an application for a temporary exemption is published in accordance with statutory and administrative provisions.

We also request additional information from BMW, Volkswagen (for which the Agency previously published a notice of receipt of an exemption petition for an ADB headlighting system) and other manufacturers who petition for similar exemptions for ADB systems. **You should submit your comments not later than April 23, 2018.**

[Volkswagen Group of America, Inc., Receipt of Petition for Decision of Inconsequential Noncompliance](#)

Published 3/21/2018

Reference SAE

Volkswagen Group of America, Inc. (Volkswagen), has determined that certain seat belt assemblies that it sold to its dealers as replacement equipment for certain model year (MY) 2009-2014 Volkswagen Routan motor vehicles do not fully comply with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) No. 209, Seat Belt Assemblies. Volkswagen filed a noncompliance report dated November 8, 2017. Volkswagen then petitioned NHTSA on November 29, 2017, for a decision that the subject noncompliance is inconsequential as it relates to motor vehicle safety. **The closing date for comments on the petition is April 20, 2018.**
