

## U.S. Federal Register Update: March 9 – March 13, 2020

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?*

### [Proposed Information Collection Request; Comment Request; Filter Adoption Survey](#)

**Published** 3/12/2020

**Reference** ANSI

The Environmental Protection Agency is planning to submit an information collection request (ICR), "Filter Adoption Survey" (EPA ICR No. 2615.01, OMB Control No. 2008-New) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act. Before doing so, EPA is soliciting public comments on specific aspects of the proposed information collection as described below. This is a request for approval of a new collection. An Agency may not conduct or sponsor and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. **Comments must be submitted on or before May 11, 2020.**

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### [Fair Housing Act Design and Construction Requirements: Adoption of Additional Safe Harbors: Extension of Public Comment Period](#)

**Published** 3/13/2020

**Reference** ANSI

On January 15, 2020, HUD published a proposed rule in the Federal Register inviting public comment on amendments to HUD's Fair Housing Act design and construction regulations. The January 15, 2020, proposed rule set March 16, 2020, as the comment due date. Because the proposed rule referred to documents that were not readily available, HUD is extending the public comment period for an additional 30-day period and making the referenced documents available through its website as described in this document. **The comment period for the proposed rule published on January 15, 2020, (85 FR 2354), is extended to April 13, 2020.**

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### [Apprenticeship Programs, Labor Standards for Registration, Amendment of Regulations](#)

**Published** 3/11/2020

**Reference** ANSI

To address America's skills gap and to rapidly increase the availability of high-quality apprenticeship programs in sectors where apprenticeship opportunities are not widespread, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL or the Department) is issuing this final rule under the authority of the National Apprenticeship Act (NAA). This final rule establishes a process for the DOL's Office of Apprenticeship (OA) Administrator (Administrator), or any person designated by the Administrator, to recognize qualified third-party entities, known as Standards Recognition Entities (SREs), which will, in turn, evaluate and recognize Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs (IRAPs). This final rule describes what entities may become recognized SREs; outlines the responsibilities and requirements for SREs, as well as the standards of the high-quality Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs the SREs will recognize; and sets forth how the Administrator will oversee SREs. **This final rule is effective May 11, 2020.**

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### [National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Stationary Combustion Turbines Residual Risk and Technology Review](#)

**Published** 3/9/2020

**Reference** ANSI, ASME, ASTM

This action finalizes the residual risk and technology review (RTR) conducted for the Stationary Combustion Turbines source category regulated under national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP). In addition, we are taking final action addressing requirements during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM) and to add electronic reporting requirements. The EPA is finalizing our proposed determination that the risks from this source category due to emissions of air toxics are acceptable and that the existing NESHAP provides an ample margin of safety to protect public health. The EPA is also finalizing our proposed determination that we identified no new cost-effective controls under the technology review that would achieve further emissions reductions from the source category. **This final rule is effective on March 9, 2020. The incorporation by reference (IBR) of certain publications listed in the rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of March 9, 2020.**

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### [Protection of Stratospheric Ozone: Revisions to the Refrigerant Management Program's Extension to Substitutes](#)

**Published** 3/11/2020

**Reference** ASHRAE

The Clean Air Act prohibits knowingly venting or releasing ozone-depleting and substitute refrigerants in the course of maintaining, servicing, repairing, or disposing of appliances or industrial process refrigeration. In 2016, the EPA amended the regulatory refrigerant management requirements and extended requirements that previously applied only to refrigerants containing an ozone-depleting substance to substitute refrigerants that are subject to the venting prohibition (i.e., those that have not been exempted from that prohibition) such as hydrofluorocarbons. Based on changes to the legal interpretation that supported that 2016 rule, this action revises some of those requirements—specifically, the appliance maintenance and leak repair provisions—so they apply only to equipment using refrigerant containing an ozone-depleting substance. **This final rule is effective on April 10, 2020.**

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### [National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Asphalt Processing and Asphalt Roofing Manufacturing Residual Risk and Technology Review](#)

**Published** 3/12/2020

**Reference** ASTM

This action finalizes the residual risk and technology review (RTR) conducted for the Asphalt Processing and Asphalt Roofing Manufacturing source categories regulated under national emission standards for hazardous air pollutants (NESHAP). In addition, we are taking final action to: Correct and clarify regulatory provisions related to emissions during periods of startup, shutdown, and malfunction (SSM); revise monitoring requirements for a control device used to comply with the particulate matter (PM) standards; add requirements for periodic performance testing; add electronic reporting of performance test results and reports, performance evaluation reports, compliance reports, and Notification of Compliance Status (NOCS) reports; and include other technical corrections to improve consistency and clarity. We are making no revisions to the numerical emission limits based on the residual risk analysis or technology review. Although these amendments are not anticipated to result in reductions in emissions of hazardous air pollutants (HAP), they will improve compliance and implementation of the rule. **This final rule is effective on March 12, 2020. The incorporation by reference (IBR) of certain publications listed in the rule is approved by the Director of the Federal Register as of March 12, 2020.**

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### [Texas Central Railroad High-Speed Rail Safety Standards](#)

**Published** 3/10/2020

**Reference** ASTM, ISO

FRA is proposing a rule of particular applicability (RPA) to establish safety standards for the Texas Central Railroad (TCRR or the railroad) high speed rail system. The proposed standards are not intended for general application in the railroad industry, but would apply only to the TCRR system planned for development in the State of Texas. The proposed RPA takes a systems approach to safety, and so includes standards that address all aspects of the TCRR high-speed system, including signal and trainset control, track, rolling stock, operating practices, system qualifications, and maintenance. The TCRR system is planned to operate from Houston to Dallas, on dedicated track, with no grade crossings, at speeds not to exceed 330 km/h (205 mph). The TCRR rolling stock, track, and core systems will replicate the Central Japan Railway Company (JRC), Tokaido Shinkansen high-speed rail system, and will be used exclusively for revenue passenger service. **Written comments must be received by May 11, 2020. Comments received after that date will be considered to the extent possible without incurring additional expense or delay.**

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### [Certain Steel Threaded Rod From the People's Republic of China: Continuation of Antidumping Duty Order](#)

**Published** 3/9/2020

**Reference** ASTM

As a result of the determination by the Department of Commerce (Commerce) and the International Trade Commission (ITC) that revocation of the antidumping duty order on certain steel threaded rod (steel threaded rod) from the People's Republic of China (China) would likely lead to continuation or recurrence of dumping and material injury to an industry in the United States, Commerce is publishing a notice of continuation of the antidumping duty order. **Applicable March 9, 2020.**

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### [Hazardous Materials: Notice of Applications for Modifications to Special Permits](#)

**Published** 3/10/2020

**Reference** ASTM

In accordance with the procedures governing the application for, and the processing of, special permits from the Department of Transportation's Hazardous Material Regulations, notice is hereby given that the Office of Hazardous Materials Safety has received the application described herein. Each mode of transportation for which a particular special permit is requested is indicated by a number in the "Nature of Application" portion of the table below as follows: 1—Motor vehicle, 2—Rail freight, 3—Cargo vessel, 4—Cargo aircraft only, 5—Passenger-carrying aircraft. **Comments must be received on or before March 25, 2020.**

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#### Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

**Published 3/10/2020**

#### **Reference NFPA**

Pursuant to the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974, as amended, the Administrator of FEMA is publishing this notice describing the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program application process, deadlines, and award selection criteria. This notice explains the differences, if any, between these guidelines and those recommended by representatives of the national fire service leadership during the annual meeting of the Criteria Development Panel on Dec. 11, 2018. The application period for the FY 2019 AFG Program opened on Feb. 3, 2020 and will close on March 13, 2020, and was announced on the AFG website at <https://www.fema.gov/welcome-assistance-firefighters-grant-program>, as well as at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). **Grant applications for the Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program are being accepted electronically at <https://go.fema.gov>, from Feb. 3, 2020, through March 13, 2020, at 5 p.m. Eastern Time.**

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