U.S. Federal Register Update: July 1 – July 5, 2019

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?

Designation of Product Categories for Federal Procurement
Published 7/5/2019
Reference ASTM
The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is amending the Guidelines for Designating Biobased Products for Federal Procurement (Guidelines) to add 30 sections that will designate the product categories within which biobased products would be afforded procurement preference by Federal agencies and their contractors. These 30 product categories contain finished products that are made, in large part, from intermediate ingredients that have been designated for Federal procurement preference. Additionally, USDA is amending the existing designated product categories of general purpose deicers, firearm lubricants, laundry products, and water clarifying agents. This rule is effective August 5, 2019.

Certain New Chemicals; Receipt and Status Information for April 2019
Published 7/5/2019
Reference ASTM
EPA is required under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), as amended by the Frank R. Launtenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, to make information publicly available and to publish information in the Federal Register pertaining to submissions under TSCA Section 5, including notice of receipt of a Premanufacture notice (PMN), Significant New Use Notice (SNUN) or Microbial Commercial Activity Notice (MCAN), including an amended notice or test information; an exemption application (Biotech exemption); an application for a test marketing exemption (TME), both pending and/or concluded; a notice of commencement (NOC) of manufacture (including import) for new chemical substances; and a periodic status report on new chemical substances that are currently under EPA review or have recently concluded review. This document covers the period from 04/01/2019 to 04/30/2019. Comments identified by the specific case number provided in this document must be received on or before August 5, 2019.

Certain Collated Steel Staples From the People's Republic of China, the Republic of Korea, and Taiwan: Initiation of Less-Than-Fair-Value Investigations
Published 7/3/2019
Reference ASTM
On June 6, 2019, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) received antidumping duty (AD) petitions concerning imports of certain collated steel staples (collated staples) from China, Korea, and Taiwan. The AD Petitions were filed in proper form by Kyocera Senco Industrial Tools, Inc. (the petitioner). The AD Petitions were accompanied by a countervailing duty (CVD) petition concerning imports of collated staples from China. Applicable June 26, 2019.

Certain Collated Steel Staples From the People's Republic of China: Initiation of Countervailing Duty Investigation
Published 7/3/2019
Reference ASTM
On June 6, 2019, the U.S. Department of Commerce (Commerce) received a countervailing duty (CVD) petition concerning imports of certain collated steel staples (collated staples) from the People’s Republic of China (China). The Petition was filed in proper form by Kyocera Senco Industrial Tools, Inc. (the petitioner). The CVD Petition was accompanied by antidumping duty (AD) petitions concerning imports of collated staples from China, the Republic of Korea, and Taiwan. Applicable June 26, 2019.

Promoting Aviation Safety
Published 7/2/2019
Reference IEEE
In this document, the Federal Communications Commission (Commission or FCC) proposes changes to the Aviation Radio Service rules to support the deployment of more advanced avionics technology, increase the efficient use of limited spectrum resources, and generally improve aviation safety. Comments due by September 3, 2019. Reply comments due by September 30, 2019.

Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Metal Halide Lamp Fixtures
Published 7/1/2019
Reference NEMA, NFPA, UL
The U.S. Department of Energy (“DOE”) is attempting to determine whether to amend the current energy conservation standards for metal halide lamp fixtures. Under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, as amended, DOE must review these standards at least once every six years and publish either a proposal to amend these standards or a notice of determination that the existing standards do not need amending. DOE is soliciting the public for information to help determine whether the current standards require amending under the applicable statutory criteria. DOE welcomes written comments from the public on any subject within the scope of this document, including topics not specifically raised. Written comments and information are requested and will be accepted on or before August 15, 2019.

Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program; Fire Prevention and Safety Grants
Published 7/2/2019
Reference NFPA
This Notice provides guidelines that describe the application process for grants and the criteria the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will use for awarding Fire Prevention and Safety (FP&S) grants in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program. It explains the differences, if any, between these guidelines and those recommended by representatives of the Nation’s fire service leadership during the annual Criteria Development meeting, which was held January 16-18, 2018. The application period for the FY 2018 FP&S Grant Program was open from November 12, 2018 to December 21, 2018, and was announced on the AFG website (www.fema.gov/firegrants), www.grants.gov, and the U.S. Fire Administration website (www.usfa.fema.gov). Grant applications for the FP&S Grant Program were accepted electronically at https://portal.fema.gov, from November 12, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. ET to December 21, 2018 at 5:00 p.m. ET.