

U.S. Federal Register Update: February 17 – February 21, 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?*

[Guidance on Federal Conformity Assessment Activities](#)

Published 2/7/2020

Reference NIST

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) requests comments on proposed revisions to regulations updating policy guidance on Federal agency use of conformity assessment that reflects advancement in conformity assessment concepts, and the evolution in Federal agency strategies and coordination in using and relying on conformity assessment.

The provisions are solely intended to be used as guidance for agencies in their use and reliance on conformity assessment to meet agency requirements and do not preempt the agency authority and responsibility to make decisions authorized by statute or required in establishing regulatory, procurement, or programmatic activities. Send comments on or before April 7, 2020.

[Pre-Earthquake Planning, Shutdown, and Restart of a Nuclear Power Plant Following an Earthquake](#)

Published 2/21/2020

Reference ANSI

The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is issuing Revision 1 to Regulatory Guide (RG) 1.166, "Pre-Earthquake Planning, Shutdown, and Restart of a Nuclear Power Plant Following an Earthquake." This revision of RG 1.166 merges two related RGs, that is, RG 1.166 and RG 1.167, "Restart of a Nuclear Power Plant Shut Down by a Seismic Event." The guides were merged because they are similar in nature and contain overlapping guidance. RG 1.167 is being withdrawn concurrently because it is no longer needed. **Revision 1 to RG 1.166 is available on February 21, 2020. The withdrawal of RG 1.167 takes effect on February 21, 2020.**

[Rules and Regulations Under the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ANSI

The Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission") proposes amending the Rules and Regulations under the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act ("Textile Rules" or "Rules") to incorporate the most recent ISO 2076 standard for generic fiber names. The proposed amendment should reduce compliance costs and increase flexibility for firms providing textile fiber information to consumers. **Written comments must be received on or before March 19, 2020.**

[OSHA Standards and Regulations; Corrections](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ANSI, ASTM

In this rule OSHA is correcting typographical errors, including extraneous or omitted materials and inaccurate graphics, in 27 OSHA standards and regulations. These revisions do not affect the substantive requirements or coverage of the standards, do not modify or revoke existing rights or obligations, and do not establish new rights or obligations. The purpose of these correcting amendments is to reduce regulatory burdens by correcting the inaccuracies in regulatory text and graphics. This rule revises standards in recordkeeping, construction, general industry, shipyard employment, and longshoring. **Effective February 18, 2020.**

[Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedures for Consumer Refrigerators, Refrigerator-Freezers, and Freezers](#)

Published 2/19/2020

Reference AHAM

In this rule OSHA is correcting typographical errors, including extraneous or omitted materials and inaccurate graphics, in 27 OSHA standards and regulations. These revisions do not affect the substantive requirements or coverage of the standards, do not modify or revoke existing rights or obligations, and do not establish new rights or obligations. The purpose of these correcting amendments is to reduce regulatory burdens by correcting the inaccuracies in regulatory text and graphics. This rule revises standards in recordkeeping, construction, general industry, shipyard employment, and longshoring. Effective

February 18, 2020. **The comment period for the NOPR published on December 23, 2019 (84 FR 70842), is extended. DOE will accept comments, data, and information regarding this request for information received no later than April 6, 2020.**

[Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod From India: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ASME, ASTM

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that carbon and alloy steel threaded rod (steel threaded rod) from India is being, or is likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). **Applicable February 18, 2020.**

[Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod From India: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ASME, ASTM

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod (steel threaded rod) from India during the period of investigation (POI) January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The final estimated subsidy rates are shown in the “Final Determination” section of this notice. **Applicable February 18, 2020.**

[Carbon and Alloy Steel Threaded Rod From the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Countervailing Duty Determination](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ASME, ASTM

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that countervailable subsidies are being provided to producers and exporters of carbon and alloy steel threaded rod (steel threaded rod) from the People's Republic of China (China). **Applicable February 18, 2020.**

[Accreditation and Approval of Chem Coast, Inc. \(La Porte, TX\) as a Commercial Gauger and Laboratory](#)

Published 2/21/2020

Reference ASTM

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to CBP regulations, that Chem Coast, Inc. (La Porte, TX), has been approved to gauge petroleum and certain petroleum products and accredited to test petroleum and certain petroleum products for customs purposes for the next three years as of August 13, 2019. **Chem Coast, Inc. (La Porte, TX) was approved and accredited as a commercial gauger and laboratory as of August 13, 2019. The next triennial inspection date will be scheduled for August 2022.**

[Large Diameter Welded Pipe From Greece: Initiation of Antidumping Duty Changed Circumstances Review](#)

Published 2/21/2020

Reference ASTM

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) is initiating a changed circumstances review (CCR) of the antidumping duty (AD) order on large diameter welded pipe from Greece. **Applicable February 21, 2020.**

[Alloy and Certain Carbon Steel Threaded Rod From the People's Republic of China: Final Affirmative Determination of Sales at Less Than Fair Value](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ASTM, ISO, SAE

The Department of Commerce (Commerce) determines that imports of alloy and certain carbon steel threaded rod (threaded rod) from the People's Republic of China (China) are being, or are likely to be, sold in the United States at less than fair value (LTFV). The final dumping margins of sales at LTFV are listed in the “Final Determination” section of this notice. **Applicable February 18, 2020.**

[Certain New Chemicals; Receipt and Status Information for December 2019](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ASTM

EPA is required under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA), as amended by the Frank R. Lautenberg 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 12/01/2019 to 12/31/2019. **Comments identified by the specific case number provided in this document must be received on or before March 19, 2020.**

[Financial Responsibility Requirements Under CERCLA Section 108\(b\) for Facilities in the Chemical Manufacturing Industry](#)

Published 2/21/2020

Reference IEC, ISO

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or the Agency) is proposing to not impose financial responsibility requirements for facilities in the Chemical Manufacturing industry under Section 108(b) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Section 108(b) addresses the promulgation of regulations that require classes of facilities to establish and maintain evidence of financial responsibility consistent with the degree and duration of risk associated with the production, transportation, treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous substances. **Comments must be received on or before April 21, 2020.**

[Rules and Regulations Under the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act](#)

Published 2/18/2020

Reference ISO

The Federal Trade Commission ("FTC" or "Commission") proposes amending the Rules and Regulations under the Textile Fiber Products Identification Act ("Textile Rules" or "Rules") to incorporate the most recent ISO 2076 standard for generic fiber names. The proposed amendment should reduce compliance costs and increase flexibility for firms providing textile fiber information to consumers. **Written comments must be received on or before March 19, 2020.**

[Quality Systems Verification Programs](#)

Published 2/19/2020

Reference ISO

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) proposes to amend regulations on Quality Systems Verification Programs (QSVP) to clarify that all voluntary, user-fee services under this part are applicable to all commodities covered by the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (Act), as amended. Further, AMS proposes to broaden the scope of services to include all current and future AMS voluntary, user-fee audit verification and accreditation programs and services. AMS will also harmonize administrative procedures governing these services and make conforming changes as necessary in other parts of our regulations. **Comments must be received by April 20, 2020. Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act, comments on the information collection burden that would result from this rulemaking must be received by April 20, 2020.**

[Individuals Accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs Using Veterans Benefits Administration Information Technology Systems To Access VBA Records Relevant to a Claim While Representing a Claimant Before the Agency](#)

Published 2/19/2020

Reference NIST

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) proposes to amend its regulations addressing when VA will allow individuals and organizations who are assisting claimants in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of their claims before VA to use Veterans Benefits Administration's (VBA) information technology (IT) systems to access VA records relevant to a claim. This rulemaking addresses who is permitted, and under what circumstances, to directly access VA's claim records through those IT systems during representation of a VA claimant in a claim for VA benefits, but is not intended to address the larger issues involving who may access VA records more generally.

Further, the proposed amendments would outline appropriate behavior while using VBA's IT systems to access VA records and the consequences of mishandling such access for attorneys, agents, or representatives of a VA-recognized service organization. **VA must receive comments on or before April 20, 2020.**

[MET Laboratories, Inc.: Applications for Expansion of Recognition](#)

Published 2/21/2020

Reference UL

In this notice, OSHA announces the applications of MET Laboratories, 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 March 9, 2020.**

