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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PUBLIC NOTICE!

DOL ANNOUNCES CHANGES TO THE FEDERAL OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS

Albert Bryan, Jr., Commissioner of Labor, through the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, would like to inform public employers of the following changes. ***Pursuant to law (Title 3 V.I.C. Section 940)***, changes to the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Standards are adopted and cited as Rules and Regulations of the Virgin Islands Division of Occupational Safety and Health:

- **Notification of Standards Action: 29 Parts 1926 and 1928, Rollover Protective Structures; Overhead Protection, Direct Final Rule**
 - Federal Register published on December 29, 2005 (70 FR 76979-77025)
 - Amending 29 CFR 1926 and 1928, Rollover Protective Structures, that rewrites existing requirements and is proposing to reinstate the original ROPS standards for construction and agriculture.
 - The direct final rule restores impact testing for protective frames on wheel-type tractors and an additional cold-temperature testing option under the construction standard.
 - It also reinstates the exemption from field-upset testing option and an additional cold-temperature testing option in the agriculture standard.
 - The final rule may be found at the following URL address:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=18478
- **Notification of Standards Action: 29 CFR 1910, Subpart S, Electrical Installation, Final Rule**
 - Federal Register published on February 14, 2007 (72 FR 7135-7221)
 - Amending 29 CFR 1910, Subpart S, Electrical that includes a new alternative method for classifying and installing equipment in Class I hazardous locations; new requirements for ground-fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) and new provisions on wiring for carnivals and similar installations.

- The final rule updates the general industry electrical installation requirements to the 2000 edition of the NFPA 70E.
 - The final rule also replaces the reference to the 1971 National Electrical Code in the mandatory appendix to the powered platform standard with a reference to OSHA's electrical installation standard.
 - The final rule may be found at the following URL address:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=19269
- **Notification of Standards Action: 29 CFR 1915, Subpart P, Fire protection in Shipyard Employment, Final Rule**
 - Federal Register published on January 3, 2007 (71 FR 60843-60847)
 - Amending 29 CFR 1915, Subpart P updates OSHA's September 15, 2004 final rule.
 - The direct final rule adds 10 updated National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards to OSHA's shipyard fire protection standard and requires employers to use the more recent versions.
 - The updated standards also incorporate some newer technologies for fire protection equipment so employees may receive greater protection from shipyard fire hazards.
 - The final rule may be found at the following URL address:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=18969
- **Notification of Standards Action: 29 CFR 1910, 1915 and 1926, Respiratory Protection Standard, Final Rule**
 - Federal Register published on August 24, 2006 (71 FR 50121-50192)
 - Amending 29 CFR 1910, 1915 and 1926 includes New Assigned Protection Factors (APFs) for respiratory protection programs.
 - This APF final rule completes the revision of the reserve sections of OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard as published in 1998.
 - The Respiratory Protection Standard will now contain provisions necessary for a comprehensive respiratory protection program, including selection and use of respirators, training, medical evaluation, and fit testing.
 - The final rule may be found at the following URL address:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=18846
- **Notification of Standards Action: 29 CFR 1910.1026, Final Rule, Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent Chromium, Amendment**
 - Federal Register published on August 24, 2006 (71 FR 50121-50192)
 - Amending 29 CFR 1910.1026 includes an agreement that creates an optional, alternative compliance timetable for metal- and surface-finishing operations at eligible facilities.
 - Facilities that become parties to the agreement must implement engineering controls for electroplating operations on an expedited

schedule (by Dec. 31, 2008), but will have relief from certain respirator requirements in the interim.

- The final rule may be found at the following URL address:
http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=FEDERAL_REGISTER&p_id=19009

The Commissioner of Labor adopts the above standards under the provisions of Title 24 Chapter 2 Section 36. These standards become rules and regulations of the V.I. Division of Occupational Safety and Health upon Federal promulgation and shall go in effect for applicability in the public sector on the effective date specified in the standard, and are therefore incorporated by reference hereto.

If you any questions, please call the Division of Occupational Safety and Health at **(340) 772-1315**.