

23—Sources of Help

Technical Advisory Board or the Highway Traffic Safety Technical Advisory Board. Many American National Standards on safety and health are developed by American National Standards Committees formed under ANSI procedures.

American Society for Testing and Materials
1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, Pa 19103

ASTM is the world's largest source of voluntary consensus standards for materials, products, systems and services. There are currently more than 4800 ASTM standards.

ASTM membership is drawn from a broad spectrum of individuals, agencies, and industries concerned with materials. The 22,000 members include engineers, scientists, researchers, educators, testing experts, companies, associations and research institutes, governmental agencies and departments (federal, state, and municipal), educational institutions, and libraries.

ASTM standards are published under the following categories:

Nonferrous metals

Ferrous metals

Cementitious, ceramic and masonry materials, soils, roads, and waterproofing

Paint, wood, adhesives, paper, packaging

Fuels, petroleum, aromatic hydrocarbons, soap, water, textiles, leather

Electrical insulations, electronics, plastics, rubber, paper

Space simulation, nuclear, aerospace, surgical implants, environmental acoustics

Forensic sciences, occupational health and safety aspects of materials, physical and biological agents, and hazard potential of chemicals

Protective equipment for sports, tires, meat and meat products, vacuum cleaners, fences, security systems, aerosols and closures, safety and traction for footwear, and pesticides

ASTM recently formed a committee on consumer product safety to develop standards that will help protect the public by reducing the risk of injury associated with the use of consumer products such as matches, cigarette lighters, bathtubs and shower structures, children's high chairs, trampolines, and football helmets.

ASTM standards are of interest to the safety professional since they identify areas of hazard and establish guidelines for safe performance. The society also publishes standards for atmospheric sampling and analysis, fire tests of materials and construction, methods of testing building construction, nondestructive testing, fatigue testing, radiation effects, pavement skid resistance, protective equipment for electrical workers, and others.

These constitute basic reference materials for the safety professional who will frequently be confronted with ASTM standards in processes, as with power plant installations in which vessels, piping, valves, and other component parts are designed and fabricated according to these standards. ASTM standards may also be factors in the raw materials used in protective equipment or other devices.

Other standards groups

In addition to the American National Standards Institute, many governmental and other agencies have established specifications used by safety professionals. Many industries through their trade associations have also established either (a) codes covering operations in their own plants or (b) safe practices to be followed in the use of their products. Some of these groups are:

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

AMERICAN WELDING SOCIETY

BUREAU OF MINES

COMPRESSED GAS ASSOCIATION

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

INDUSTRIAL SAFETY EQUIPMENT ASSOCIATION

INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING AND MECHANICAL OFFICIALS, 5032 Alhambra Ave., Los Angeles, Calif 90032

NATIONAL BOARD OF BOILER AND PRESSURE VESSEL INSPECTORS, 1155 North High St., Columbus, Ohio 43201

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION