

Sources of Help

sponsors several building and safety standards and assists in the preparation of many standards sponsored by other groups. These codes, with a few exceptions, are prepared by representative sectional committees operating under the rules of procedure of the American Standards Institute. They are intended to serve as a basis for regulations promulgated by states and cities, as standards for the federal government, and for voluntary use by industry, architects, and consulting engineers.

The section also serves as safety consultant to the NBS and, on request, to other governmental departments in the preparation of specifications, analysis of bids, and final acceptance tests of such equipment as elevators, electrical equipment, and lightning protection.

The section arranges for other NBS divisions to conduct basic research on equipment to secure data for codes. Such studies have included transmission of welding glass in the ultraviolet, visible, and infrared spectra, and performance of elevator hoistway door interlocks, hydraulic buffers, and undercar safeties.

Of particular interest to safety engineers is the *Code for Head, Eye, and Respiratory Protection*, developed from tests conducted at the bureau.

The bureau conducts research on problems relating to fire safety and the fire resistance of materials, and assists other organizations in the formulation of standards and codes pertaining to fire and structural hazards in buildings. The monthly *Technical News Bulletin* reports on progress of work, conferences, and new publications.

Department of Defense

The Pentagon, Washington, D C 20301

See separate entries: Department of the Air Force, Department of the Army, and Department of the Navy.

Department of Health, Education, and Welfare

330 Independence Ave SW,
Washington, D C 20201

Public Health Service

The Public Health Service has two operating agencies that are of especial interest to safety professionals: (I) The Health Services

and Mental Health Administration, and (II) the Consumer Protection and Environmental Health Service.

I

Health Services and Mental Health Administration
330 C St SW,
Washington, D C 20201

The National Center for Health Statistics, under the Health Services and Mental Health Administration, contains two divisions which collect statistics on accidents. The National Health Survey Division and the National Vital Statistics Division.

- The National Health Survey Division, in its *Health Interview Survey*, collects statistics on injuries and persons injured. This survey obtains data on illness, impairments, and disability in the general population, and reports are published as data become available. In household interviews, information is solicited on the kind of injury, the place of the accident (i.e., at home, at work, or elsewhere), whether a motor vehicle was involved, and the degree of disability resulting.

- The National Vital Statistics Division annually publishes figures on deaths from accidents and other causes in *Vital Statistics of the United States* and in preprints based on this information. The numbers of deaths from accidents are listed by age, sex, place of accident, cause of death, and other details. This division also collects provisional data based on a 10 per cent sample of deaths from motor vehicle and other accidents which are published in its monthly *Vital Statistics Report*.

II

Consumer Protection and Environmental
Health Service

In 1968, the Consumer Protection and Environmental Health Service was organized as an operating agency of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The service "provides leadership and direction to programs and activities designed to assure effective protection for every American against hazards to health in his environment and in the products and services which enter his life."

To these ends, the Consumer Protection and Environmental Health Service