

Subpart L—Electrical Machinery**§ 1915.181 Electrical circuits and distribution boards.**

(a) The provisions of this section shall apply to ship repairing and shipbuilding and shall not apply to shipbreaking.

(b) Before an employee is permitted to work on an electrical circuit, except when the circuit must remain energized for testing and adjusting, the circuit shall be deenergized and checked at the point at which the work is to be done to insure that it is actually deenergized. When testing or adjusting an energized circuit a rubber mat, duck board, or other suitable insulation shall be used underfoot where an insulated deck does not exist.

(c) Deenergizing the circuit shall be accomplished by opening the circuit breaker, opening the switch, or removing the fuse, whichever method is appropriate. The circuit breaker, switch, or fuse location shall be tagged to indicate that an employee is working on the circuit. Such tags shall not be removed nor the circuit energized until it is definitely determined that the work on the circuit has been completed.

(d) When work is performed immediately adjacent to an open-front energized board or in back of an energized board, the board shall be covered or some other equally safe means shall be used to prevent contact with any of the energized parts.

[47 FR 16986, Apr. 20, 1982, as amended at 67 FR 44545, July 3, 2002]

Subparts M–O [Reserved]**Subpart P—Fire Protection in Shipyard Employment**

SOURCE: 69 FR 55702, Sept. 15, 2004, unless otherwise noted.

§ 1915.501 General provisions.

(a) *Purpose.* The purpose of the standard in this subpart is to require employers to protect all employees from fire hazards in shipyard employment, including employees engaged in fire response activities.

(b) *Scope.* This subpart covers employers with employees engaged in

shipyard employment aboard vessels and vessel sections, and on land-side operations regardless of geographic location.

(c) *Employee participation.* The employer must provide ways for employees or employee representatives, or both to participate in developing and periodically reviewing programs and policies adopted to comply with this subpart.

(d) *Multi-employer worksites—(1) Host employer responsibilities.* The host employer's responsibilities are to:

(i) Inform all employers at the worksite about the content of the fire safety plan including hazards, controls, fire safety and health rules, and emergency procedures;

(ii) Make sure the safety and health responsibilities for fire protection are assigned as appropriate to other employers at the worksite; and

(iii) If there is more than one host employer, each host employer must communicate relevant information about fire-related hazards to other employers. When a vessel owner or operator (temporarily) becomes a host shipyard employer by directing the work of ships' crews on repair or modification of the vessel or by hiring other contractors directly, the vessel owner or operator must also comply with these provisions for host employers.

(2) *Contract employer responsibilities.* The contract employer's responsibilities are to:

(i) Make sure that the host employer knows about the fire-related hazards associated with the contract employer's work and what the contract employer is doing to address them; and

(ii) Advise the host employer of any previously unidentified fire-related hazards that the contract employer identifies at the worksite.

§ 1915.502 Fire safety plan.

(a) *Employer responsibilities.* The employer must develop and implement a written fire safety plan that covers all the actions that employers and employees must take to ensure employee safety in the event of a fire. (See Appendix A to this subpart for a Model Fire Safety Plan.)

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(b) *Plan elements.* The employer must include the following information in the fire safety plan:

- (1) Identification of the significant fire hazards;
- (2) Procedures for recognizing and reporting unsafe conditions;
- (3) Alarm procedures;
- (4) Procedures for notifying employees of a fire emergency;
- (5) Procedures for notifying fire response organizations of a fire emergency;
- (6) Procedures for evacuation;
- (7) Procedures to account for all employees after an evacuation; and
- (8) Names, job titles, or departments for individuals who can be contacted for further information about the plan.

(c) *Reviewing the plan with employees.* The employer must review the plan with each employee at the following times:

- (1) Within 90 days of December 14, 2004, for employees who are currently working;
- (2) Upon initial assignment for new employees; and
- (3) When the actions the employee must take under the plan change because of a change in duties or a change in the plan.

(d) *Additional employer requirements.* The employer also must:

- (1) Keep the plan accessible to employees, employee representatives, and OSHA;
- (2) Review and update the plan whenever necessary, but at least annually;
- (3) Document that affected employees have been informed about the plan as required by paragraph (c) of this section; and
- (4) Ensure any outside fire response organization that the employer expects to respond to fires at the employer's worksite has been given a copy of the current plan.

(e) *Contract employers.* Contract employers in shipyard employment must have a fire safety plan for their employees, and this plan must comply with the host employer's fire safety plan.

§ 1915.503 **Precautions for hot work.**

(a) *General requirements—(1) Designated Areas.* The employer may designate areas for hot work in sites such

as vessels, vessel sections, fabricating shops, and subassembly areas that are free of fire hazards.

(2) *Non-designated Areas.* (i) Before authorizing hot work in a non-designated area, the employer must visually inspect the area where hot work is to be performed, including adjacent spaces, to ensure the area is free of fire hazards, unless a Marine Chemist's certificate or Shipyard Competent Person's log is used for authorization.

(ii) The employer shall authorize employees to perform hot work only in areas that are free of fire hazards, or that have been controlled by physical isolation, fire watches, or other positive means.

NOTE TO PARAGRAPH (a)(2): The requirements of paragraph (a)(2) apply to all hot work operations in shipyard employment except those covered by §1915.14.

(b) *Specific requirements—(1) Maintaining fire hazard-free conditions.* The employer must keep all hot work areas free of new hazards that may cause or contribute to the spread of fire. Unexpected energizing and energy release are covered by 29 CFR 1915.181, Subpart L. Exposure to toxic and hazardous substances is covered in 29 CFR 1915.1000 through 1915.1450, subpart Z.

(2) *Fuel gas and oxygen supply lines and torches.* The employer must make sure that:

(i) No unattended fuel gas and oxygen hose lines or torches are in confined spaces;

(ii) No unattended charged fuel gas and oxygen hose lines or torches are in enclosed spaces for more than 15 minutes; and

(iii) All fuel gas and oxygen hose lines are disconnected at the supply manifold at the end of each shift;

(iv) All disconnected fuel gas and oxygen hose lines are rolled back to the supply manifold or to open air to disconnect the torch; or extended fuel gas and oxygen hose lines are not reconnected at the supply manifold unless the lines are given a positive means of identification when they were first connected and the lines are tested using a drop test or other positive means to ensure the integrity of fuel gas and oxygen burning system.