

§ 1926.951

29 CFR Ch. XVII (7-1-10 Edition)

(g) *Work near and over water.* When crews are engaged in work over or near water and when danger of drowning exists, suitable protection shall be provided as stated in § 1926.104, or § 1926.105, or § 1926.106.

(h) *Sanitation facilities.* The requirements of § 1926.51 of subpart D of this part shall be complied with for sanitation facilities.

(i) *Hydraulic fluids.* All hydraulic fluids used for the insulated sections of derrick trucks, aerial lifts, and hydraulic tools which are used on or around energized lines and equipment shall be of the insulating type. The requirements for fire resistant fluids of § 1926.302(d)(1) do not apply to hydraulic tools covered by this paragraph.

**§ 1926.951 Tools and protective equipment.**

(a) *Protective equipment.* (1)(i) Rubber protective equipment shall be in accordance with the provisions of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), ANSI J6 series, as follows:

Item	Standard
Rubber insulating gloves .....	J6.6-1971.
Rubber matting for use around electric apparatus .....	J6.7-1935 (R1971).
Rubber insulating blankets .....	J6.4-1971.
Rubber insulating hoods .....	J6.2-1950 (R1971).
Rubber insulating line hose .....	J6.1-1950 (R1971).
Rubber insulating sleeves .....	J6.5-1971.

(ii) Rubber protective equipment shall be visually inspected prior to use.

(iii) In addition, an “air” test shall be performed for rubber gloves prior to use.

(iv) Protective equipment of material other than rubber shall provide equal or better electrical and mechanical protection.

(2) Protective hats shall be in accordance with the provisions of ANSI Z89.2-1971 Industrial Protective Helmets for Electrical Workers, Class B, and shall be worn at the jobsite by employees who are exposed to the hazards of falling objects, electric shock, or burns.

(b) *Personal climbing equipment.* (1) Body belts with straps or lanyards shall be worn to protect employees working at elevated locations on poles, towers, or other structures except where such use creates a greater hazard to the safety of the employees, in

which case other safeguards shall be employed.

(2) Body belts and safety straps shall meet the requirements of § 1926.959. In addition to being used as an employee safeguarding item, body belts with approved tool loops may be used for the purpose of holding tools. Body belts shall be free from additional metal hooks and tool loops other than those permitted in § 1926.959.

(3) Body belts and straps shall be inspected before use each day to determine that they are in safe working condition.

(4)(i) Lifelines and lanyards shall comply with the provisions of § 1926.502.

(ii) Safety lines are not intended to be subjected to shock loading and are used for emergency rescue such as lowering a man to the ground. Such safety lines shall be a minimum of one-half-inch diameter and three or four strand first-grade manila or its equivalent in strength (2,650 lb.) and durability.

(5) Defective ropes shall be replaced.

(c) *Ladders.* (1) Portable metal or conductive ladders shall not be used near energized lines or equipment except as may be necessary in specialized work such as in high voltage substations where nonconductive ladders might present a greater hazard than conductive ladders. Conductive or metal ladders shall be prominently marked as conductive and all necessary precautions shall be taken when used in specialized work.

(2) Hook or other type ladders used in structures shall be positively secured to prevent the ladder from being accidentally displaced.

(d) *Live-line tools.* (1) Only live-line tool poles having a manufacturer’s certification to withstand the following minimum tests shall be used:

(i) 100,000 volts per foot of length for 5 minutes when the tool is made of fiberglass; or

(ii) 75,000 volts per foot of length for 3 minutes when the tool is made of wood; or

(iii) Other tests equivalent to paragraph (d) (i) or (ii) of this section as appropriate.

(2) All live-line tools shall be visually inspected before use each day. Tools to be used shall be wiped clean and if any

hazardous defects are indicated such tools shall be removed from service.

(e) *Measuring tapes or measuring ropes.* Measuring tapes or measuring ropes which are metal or contain conductive strands shall not be used when working on or near energized parts.

(f) *Handtools.* (1) Switches for all powered hand tools shall comply with §1926.300(d).

(2) All portable electric handtools shall:

(i) Be equipped with three-wire cord having the ground wire permanently connected to the tool frame and means for grounding the other end; or

(ii) Be of the double insulated type and permanently labeled as "Double Insulated"; or

(iii) Be connected to the power supply by means of an isolating transformer, or other isolated power supply.

(3) All hydraulic tools which are used on or around energized lines or equipment shall use nonconducting hoses having adequate strength for the normal operating pressures. It should be noted that the provisions of §1926.302(d)(2) shall also apply.

(4) All pneumatic tools which are used on or around energized lines or equipment shall:

(i) Have nonconducting hoses having adequate strength for the normal operating pressures, and

(ii) Have an accumulator on the compressor to collect moisture.

[44 FR 8577, Feb. 9, 1979; 44 FR 20940, Apr. 6, 1979, as amended at 59 FR 40730, Aug. 9, 1994]

#### § 1926.952 Mechanical equipment.

(a) *General.* (1) Visual inspections shall be made of the equipment to determine that it is in good condition each day the equipment is to be used.

(2) Tests shall be made at the beginning of each shift during which the equipment is to be used to determine that the brakes and operating systems are in proper working condition.

(3) No employer shall use any motor vehicle equipment having an obstructed view to the rear unless:

(i) The vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level or:

(ii) The vehicle is backed up only when an observer signals that it is safe to do so.

(b) *Aerial lifts.* (1) The provisions of §1926.556, subpart N of this part, shall apply to the utilization of aerial lifts.

(2) When working near energized lines or equipment, aerial lift trucks shall be grounded or barricaded and considered as energized equipment, or the aerial lift truck shall be insulated for the work being performed.

(3) Equipment or material shall not be passed between a pole or structure and an aerial lift while an employee working from the basket is within reaching distance of energized conductors or equipment that are not covered with insulating protective equipment.

(c) *Derrick trucks, cranes and other lifting equipment.* (1) All derrick trucks, cranes and other lifting equipment shall comply with subpart N and O of this part except:

(i) As stated in §1926.550(a)(15) (i) and (ii) relating to clearance (for clearances in this subpart see Table V-1) and

(ii) Derrick truck (electric line trucks) shall not be required to comply with §1926.550(a)(7)(vi), (a)(17), (b)(2), and (e).

(2) With the exception of equipment certified for work on the proper voltage, mechanical equipment shall not be operated closer to any energized line or equipment than the clearances set forth in §1926.950(c) unless:

(i) An insulated barrier is installed between the energized part and the mechanical equipment, or

(ii) The mechanical equipment is grounded, or

(iii) The mechanical equipment is insulated, or

(iv) The mechanical equipment is considered as energized.

#### § 1926.953 Material handling.

(a) *Unloading.* Prior to unloading steel, poles, cross arms and similar material, the load shall be thoroughly examined to ascertain if the load has shifted, binders or stakes have broken or the load is otherwise hazardous to employees.

(b) *Pole hauling.* (1) During pole hauling operations, all loads shall be secured to prevent displacement and a red flag shall be displayed at the trailing end of the longest pole.