

OHSA: DRAFT LEAD REGULATIONS

Hi there

The Minister of Employment and Labour gave notice, in terms of section 43 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act 85 of 1993, of the intention to make the abovementioned Regulations. Interested persons who wish to comment on the draft Regulations are invited to submit written comments within 90 days from the date of publication of the Notice in the Government Gazette, to the Director-General of the Department of Employment and Labour.

More information:

The Regulations apply to every employer and self-employed person at a workplace where *lead work* takes place and lead can be inhaled, ingested or absorbed by any person in that workplace.

“Lead work” means –

- (a) work that exposes a person to lead dust or lead fumes arising from the manufacture or handling of dry lead compounds,
- (b) work in connection with the manufacture, assembly, handling or repair of, or parts of, batteries and radiators containing lead that involves the manipulation of dry lead compounds, or pasting or casting lead,
- (c) dismantling batteries containing lead for recycling,
- (d) melting, casting or spraying lead metal or alloys,
- (e) recovering lead from its ores, oxides or other compounds by thermal reduction processes,
- (f) mechanical abrasion of metal plant, machinery or products, containing lead or lead alloys or the abrasion of any surface painted with lead containing paint,
- (g) electric arc, oxyacetylene, plasma arc or a flame that is applied to the surface of metal coated with lead or paint containing lead,
- (h) confirmatory laboratory tests for lead, lead compounds or lead alloys,
- (i) spray painting with lead containing paint,
- (j) manufacture, test or use of detonators, ammunition or other explosives that contain lead,
- (k) lead and lead alloy foundry processes,
- (l) work where lead is produced, processed, used, handled or stored in a form in which it can be inhaled, ingested or absorbed.

The manufacturer or importer of lead or lead containing products must, before it is supplied to a workplace, use the compulsory classification (according to Annexure A of the Regulations) and review the classification should a change in composition be made.

Any employer or self-employed person must, where lead work is conducted, cause a documented risk assessment to be carried out by a competent person at intervals not exceeding 24 months.

The Regulations deal with, inter alia, the following matters:

- Classification of lead and lead containing products
- Identification of lead and lead work
- Lead risk assessment
- Information, instruction, supervision and training
- Duties of persons who may be exposed
- Exposure monitoring
- Medical screening and surveillance
- Respirator zone
- Records
- Control of exposure
- Personal protective equipment and facilities
- Cleanliness of premises and plant
- Maintenance, examination and testing of control measures
- Prohibitions
- Labelling of lead
- Disposal of lead waste
- Offences and penalties

Publication details:

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Where do I access this information?

<https://implex.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Draft-Lead-Regulations-2024.pdf>

We trust that this information will serve to be of some assistance to you and look forward to your positive feedback!

Implex regards,
Marlize



"Innovation comes only from readily and seamlessly sharing information rather than hoarding it." Tom Peters