

How to Read the OSHA Standards: 29 CFR 1926-Construction Industry

Example

An example of an OSHA Construction Industry Standard may look like this:

TITLE	CODE OF FED. REG.	PART	SECTION	LOWER CASE ALPHA	ARABIC NUMBER	LOWER CASE ROMAN	CAPITAL/UPPER CASE ALPHA
29	CFR	1926	.152	(i)	(2)	(iv)	(A)

Let's explain what that means:

- **Title**
The United State **Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)** contains the major laws (statutes and regulations) issued by federal agencies. The CFRs are broken down into 50 Titles. **Title 29 of the CFR** deals with **Labor Laws** that affect businesses and workers.
- **Chapters**
Each CFR Title is broken down into Chapters. **Chapter XVII** outlines the Labor Laws for the **Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)**. (The Chapter number is usually omitted when citing a Standard since the following Part makes the issuing agency name clear.)
- **Parts**
Chapter XVII is broken into Parts ranging in numbers from 1900-1999. The most commonly referenced Parts of 29 CFR are:
 - › Part 1910-OSHA General Industry Standards
 - › Part 1915-OSHA Shipyard Employment Standards
 - › Part 1917-OSHA Marine Terminals Standards
 - › Part 1918-OSHA Longshoring Standards
 - › **Part 1926-OSHA Construction Standards**
 - › Part 1928-OSHA Agriculture Standards
- **Subparts**
Under each Part, major blocks of information are broken into Subparts. The major Subparts in 29 CFR 1926-Construction Industry are:
 - › Subpart C-General Safety and Health Provisions
 - › Subpart D-Occupational Health and Environmental Controls
 - › Subpart E-Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment
 - › Subpart F-Fire Protection and Prevention
 - › Subpart G-Signs, Signals, and Barricades
 - › Subpart H-Materials Handling, Storage, Use, and Disposal
 - › Subpart I-Tools-Hand and Power
 - › Subpart J-Welding and Cutting
 - › Subpart K-Electrical
 - › Subpart L-Scaffolds
 - › Subpart M-Fall Protection
 - › Subpart N-Helicopters, Hoists, Elevators, and Conveyors
 - › Subpart O-Motor Vehicles, Mechanized Equipment, and Marine Operations
 - › Subpart P-Excavations

- › Subpart Q-Concrete and Masonry Construction
- › Subpart R-Steel Erection
- › Subpart S-Underground Construction, Caissons, Cofferdams, and Compressed Air
- › Subpart T-Demolition
- › Subpart U-Blasting and the Use of Explosives
- › Subpart V-Power Transmission and Distribution
- › Subpart W-Rollover Protective Structures; Overhead Protection
- › Subpart X-Stairways and Ladders
- › Subpart Y-Commercial Diving Operations
- › Subpart Z-Toxic and Hazardous Substances
- › Subpart AA-Confined Spaces in Construction
- › Subpart CC-Cranes and Derricks in Construction

- **Sections**
Each Subpart is broken into Sections of numbered information. For 29 CFR 1926-Construction Industry, the Section numbering begins at .1 in Subpart A and continues through Section .1442 in Subpart CC. In the example above (29 CFR 1926.152), Section .152 falls under Subpart F-Fire Protection and Prevention. The major Sections under Subpart F span 1926.150 through 1926.155.

- › 1926.150-Fire Protection
- › 1926.151-Fire Prevention
- › 1926.152-Flammable and combustible liquids
- › 1926.153-Liquefied petroleum gas (LP-Gas)
- › 1926.154-Temporary heating devices
- › 1926.155-Definitions applicable to this Subpart

(Note: The Subpart letter is usually omitted when citing a Standard since its sole purpose is to categorize similar information into Sections.)

After the Section number, the outline for categorizing information goes from lower case alpha, Arabic number, lower case Roman number, then upper case Alpha. So, the earlier example tells us:

In the U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (**CFR**)

- ➔ **Title 29**-Labor Laws, Chapter XVII-Occupational Safety and Health Administration
- ➔ **Part 1926**-Construction Industry Standards
- ➔ **Section .152**-Flammable Liquids
 - ➔ **(i)** Tank Storage
 - ➔ **(2)** Installation of outside aboveground tanks
 - ➔ **(iv)** Normal venting for aboveground tanks
 - ➔ **(A)** Atmospheric storage tanks shall be adequately vented to prevent the development of vacuum or pressure sufficient to distort the roof of a cone roof tank or exceeding the design pressure in the case of other atmospheric tanks as a result of filling or emptying, and atmospheric temperature changes.