

WorkSafeBC Regulatory Updates

July 4, 2018

2018 New or Revised ACGIH Threshold Limit Values and B.C. OELs

The *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* provides that occupational exposure limits (OELs) for hazardous chemical substances are determined with reference to threshold limit values (TLVs) set by the [American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists](#) (ACGIH).

Each year, the ACGIH publishes a list of substances for which they have set new or revised TLVs. When the substances are adopted, WorkSafeBC refers to these TLVs as OELs. An OEL is the maximum allowed airborne concentration for a particular substance from which nearly all workers are believed to experience no adverse health effects over a working lifetime. OELs may be set out as an 8-hour time-weighted average concentration, short-term exposure limit, or ceiling limit.

The following substances, for which the ACGIH has published new or revised TLVs, have been added to the Table of Occupational Exposure Limits for Excluded Substances in OHS Policy R5.48-1. Current OELs are maintained for these substances until WorkSafeBC decides on the adoption of their respective TLVs.

Aldicarb	Chromyl chloride
Allyl methacrylate	Cyanoacrylates, ethyl and methyl
Bendiocarb	Dimethylacetamide
Boron trifluoride ethers, as BF ₃	Dimethylformamide
tert-Butyl hydroperoxide	Ethyl cyanoacrylate
Calcium chromate, as Cr	Fludrioxonil
Carfentrazone-ethyl	Isopropyl acetate
Chlorine	Lead chromate, as Cr(VI)
Chlorine dioxide	Methyl 2-cyanoacrylate
Chromite ore processing (Chromate), as Cr	Paraquat, as the cation
Chromium and inorganic compounds:	Phosphine
◦ Metallic chromium, as Cr(0), Inhalable	n-Propyl acetate
◦ Trivalent chromium compounds, as Cr(III)	Propyl acetate isomers
◦ Hexavalent chromium compounds, as Cr(VI)	Strontium chromate, as Cr
◦ Chromyl chloride, as Cr(VI)	Thioglycolic acid and salts
◦ Chromite ore processing	Zinc chromates, as Cr

Housekeeping Items

Editorial changes were made to OHS Policy R5.48-1 to help enhance readability and clarity. The following six substances will be removed from the Table of OELs for Excluded Substances in Policy R5.48-1, since the ACGIH TLVs have been adopted previously in BC.

Acetylene	Helium	Neon
Argon	Hydrogen	Nitrogen

WorkSafeBC OELs can be found in the [Table of Exposure Limits for Chemical and Biological Substances](#)