

---

# MIOSHA

Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity(LEO)

## AGENCY INSTRUCTION

---

DOCUMENT IDENTIFIER:  
MIOSHA-STD-16-1R1

DATE:  
April 20, 2020

---

**SUBJECT: Hexavalent Chromium – National Emphasis Program (NEP)**

---

- I. Purpose. This instruction establishes agency enforcement policy and instruction to ensure compliance with the federal OSHA NEP for hexavalent chromium.
- II. Scope. This instruction applies to staff of the MIOSHA General Industry Safety and Health Division (GISHD), Construction Safety and Health Division (CSHD), and the Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division.
- III. References.
  - A. Agency Instruction, MIOSHA-COM-13-1, [Dual, One-MIOSHA, Intra-Office Assistance, and Transfer of Inspections/Investigations](#), as amended.
  - B. Agency Instruction, MIOSHA-COM-20-1, [Companion and Expanded Inspections](#).
  - C. Division Instruction, CSHD-COM-09-1, [Construction Inspection Targeting](#), as amended.
  - D. General Industry Safety and Health Division, [General Industry Inspection Priority System](#) – Scheduled Programmed Inspections (Private Sector), November, 2019.
  - E. MIOSHA Fact Sheet, [Chromium VI](#).
  - F. Occupational Safety and Health Administration Directive [CPL 02-02-076, National Emphasis Program – Hexavalent Chromium](#).
- IV. Distribution. MIOSHA Staff; Federal OSHA; S-drive Accessible; MIOSHA Messenger; and Internet Accessible.
- V. Next Review Date. This instruction will be reviewed three years from date of issuance.
- VI. Cancellations. All previous versions of this agency instruction.
- VII. History. History of previous versions includes:
  - MIOSHA-STD-16-1, December 20, 2016.
  - MIOSHA-MEMO-ADM-10-5R1, December 23, 2013.
  - MIOSHA-MEMO-ADM-10-5, July 7, 2010.
  - GISHD-MEMO-ADM-07-1, January 11, 2007.
- VIII. Contact. [Nella Davis-Ray](#), Director, CET; [Lawrence Hidalgo, Jr.](#), Director, CSHD; and [Adrian Z. Rocskay](#), Director, GISHD
- IX. Originator: Barton G. Pickelman, Director
- X. Background. In 2006, federal OSHA issued updated standards regulating workplace exposures to hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)) in general industry, construction, and maritime. In February 2010, federal OSHA implemented an NEP to identify and reduce

hazards associated with exposures to Cr(VI). With this instruction, as amended, MIOSHA adopts the federal OSHA NEP on Cr(VI) and the associated federal OSHA compliance directive, [CPL 02-02-076 National Emphasis Program – Hexavalent Chromium](#). This MIOSHA instruction and the federal OSHA CPL contain directions for identifying and inspecting workplaces where workers are likely to be exposed to Cr(VI).

XI. Targeting. In lieu of creating a new system for targeting Cr(VI) inspections, MIOSHA will utilize its existing targeting systems which already address general industry establishments and construction work locations where Cr(VI) exposures may exist. The current targeting systems are described in greater detail in the documents titled, [General Industry Inspection Priority System – Scheduled Programmed Inspections](#), and CSHD-COM-09-1, [Construction Inspection Targeting](#). With programmed investigations and other sources of inspections, such as complaints, MIOSHA anticipates conducting at least two to five inspections per year under the Cr(VI) NEP.

XII. Enforcement Activities. On all inspections (e.g., programmed, complaint, referral), the Safety Officer (SO)/Industrial Hygienist (IH) will evaluate the employer’s work operations in an effort to determine if employees have potential exposure to Cr(VI). Operations where Cr(VI) exposure may occur include, but are not limited to, electroplating, welding, thermal cutting, painting, abrasive blasting on painted surfaces, and molten metal handling operations. These processes and associated North American Industry Classification System codes are listed in the OSHA CPL. Additional information on the adverse health effects of Cr(VI) and the industrial and construction-related work processes where such exposures may exist can be found in the MIOSHA Fact Sheet [Chromium VI](#).

In general industry, if potential Cr(VI) exposures are discovered during a non-Cr(VI) complaint or referral investigation, a companion inspection shall be initiated to address Cr(VI) using the procedures outlined in MIOSHA-COM-20-1, [Companion and Expanded Inspections](#). All investigations under this NEP will be conducted by an IH from GISHD or CSHD. If a SO discovers potential Cr(VI) exposures during the course of his or her inspection, the SO shall contact the appropriate health supervisor and make a request for Intra-Office Assistance in accordance with Agency Instruction MIOSHA-COM-13-1, [Dual, One-MIOSHA, Intra-Office Assistance, and Transfer of Inspections/Investigations](#). The IH will inspect the targeted facility in accordance with procedures outlined in Section XII of the OSHA CPL.

XIII. OSHA Information System Coding.

A. All enforcement activities conducted under this NEP shall be coded with the NEP code “CHROME6.” On the Inspection tab, on the Inspection Type subtab:

1. Select “Programmed Planned” from the Initiating Type drop down menu;
2. Select “CHROME6” (ELIMINATE HLTH HAZARDS FROM HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM VI) from the NEP drop down list;
3. From the Inspection Category drop down menu select, “Health” and
4. From the Scope of Inspection drop down list, select “Partial.”

- B. All CETD on-site consultation activities (Request, Visit, and Compliance Assistance) conducted in response to this NEP will also be coded with the NEP code “CHROME6” in OIS.
- XIV. Outreach Activities. MIOSHA’s consultation program will use the same strategic approach as the enforcement divisions for targeting workplaces and activities for reducing health effects associated with occupational overexposure to Cr(VI) and other toxic substances covered by this NEP.