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AIHA[®] Announces Open Comment Period for ANSI Z10 Standard *Open comment period runs November 25, 2011 – January 9, 2012*

FAIRFAX, VA, (November 18, 2011) — The American Industrial Hygiene Association[®] (AIHA) announces the open comment period for an updated AIHA/ANSI Z10 standard. This standard defines minimum performance requirements for occupational health and safety management systems (OHSMS). The open comment period begins November 25, 2011. Deadline for comment on the Z10 standard is January 9, 2012.

This is a voluntary consensus standard on occupational health and safety management systems. It uses recognized management system principles in order to be compatible with quality and environmental management system standards such as the ISO 9000 and ISO 14000 series. The standard also draws from approaches used by the International Labor Organization's (ILO) guidelines on Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems and from systems in use in organizations in the U.S.

The design of ANSI Z10 encourages integration with other management systems to facilitate organizational effectiveness using the elements of Plan-Do-Check-Act (PDCA) model as the basis for continual improvement. The adoption of Z10 fits well with organizations desiring long-term sustainable growth in a socially responsible manner by reducing injury and illness and improving overall employee well-being. An OHSMS implemented in conformance with the Z10 standard can help organizations minimize workplace risks and reduce the occurrence and cost of occupational injuries, illnesses and fatalities.

To obtain an electronic copy of the draft or comment, please visit <http://www.aiha.org/insideaiha/standards/Pages/Z10.aspx> or contact David Hicks, AIHA (ASC Z10) Secretariat Representative, at standards@aiha.org.

Founded in 1939, the **American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)** is the premier association of occupational and environmental health and safety professionals. AIHA's 10,240 members play a crucial role on the front line of worker health and safety every day. Members represent a cross-section of industry, private business, labor, government and academia.