

OSHA Directives

STD 1-12.4 - Caution Labeling of Radial Saws: 29 CFR 1910.213(h)(5)

- **Record Type:** Instruction
 - **Directive Number:** STD 1-12.4
 - **Standard Number:** 1910.213(h)(5)
 - **Subject:** Caution Labeling of Radial Saws: 29 CFR 1910.213(h)(5)
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OSHA Instruction STD 1-12.4 October 30, 1978

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OSHA PROGRAM DIRECTIVE #100-24

To: Field and National Offices

Subject: Caution Labeling of Radial Saws: 29 CFR 1910.213(h)(5)

1. Purpose. To provide guidance in the enforcement of the subject provision.
2. Background. The intent of the standard is to insure that ripping and ploughing performed on radial saws is done against the direction of saw blade rotation. The provision further states that "a permanent label . . . shall be affixed to the rear of the guard . . . , reading as follows:

"Danger: Do Not Rip or Plough From This End."

It has been pointed to us by employers and manufacturers that, in many cases, to meet the intent of the standard, the caution label should be located on the front of the guard. Further, strict adherence to the provision could result in a danger to employees. The National Office is taking steps to clarify the standard. In order to avoid confusion in the meantime, the following interpretation should be made known as widely as possible.

3. Interpretation. The intent of 29 CFR 1910.213(h)(5) must at all times prevail. The caution label must be located at the end of the guard at which the blade teeth exit the upper guard during the operation of the saw. Thus, the requirement concerning the location of the label, in Section 1910.213(h)(5), shall be deemed violated when (1) the label is omitted; or (2) it is placed

anywhere but the end of the guard at which the blade teeth exit the upper guard during the operation of the saw.

4. Effective Date. This instruction is effective immediately and will remain in effect until canceled, superseded, or an amendment is made to 29 CFR 1910.213(h)(5).

Director, Office of Standards

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