DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request; Standard on Blasting Operations and the Use of Explosives

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of Labor (DOL) is submitting this Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)-sponsored information collection request (ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA). Public comments on the ICR are invited.

DATES: The OMB will consider all written comments that the agency receives on or before March 21, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” by using the search function.

Comments are invited on: (1) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Department, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) if the information will be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) the accuracy of the agency’s estimates of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (4) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (5) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nora Hernandez by telephone at 202–693–8633, or by email at DOL_PRA_PUBLIC@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In accordance with 29 CFR part 1926, subpart U, the Standard on Blasting and the Use of Explosives specifies a number of paperwork requirements related to blasting operations. The information collection pertains to the requirements contained in the subpart. For additional substantive information about this ICR, see the related notice published in the Federal Register on November 9, 2021 (86 FR 62214).

This information collection is subject to the PRA. A Federal agency generally cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information, and the public is generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number. See 5 CFR 1320.5(a) and 1320.6.

DOL seeks OMB authorization for this information collection for three (3) years. OMB authorization for an ICR cannot be for more than three (3) years without renewal. The DOL notes that the collection of information to the PRA. A Federal agency generally not required to respond to an information collection, unless the OMB approves it and displays a currently valid OMB Control Number. In addition, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall generally be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information that does not display a valid OMB Control Number.

Agency: DOL–OSHA.

Title of Collection: Standard on Blasting and the Use of Explosives.

OMB Control Number: 1218–0217.

Affected Public: Private Sector—Businesses or other for-profits.

Total Estimated Number of Respondents: 193.

Total Estimated Number of Responses: 802.

Total Estimated Annual Time Burden: 1,602 hours.

Total Estimated Annual Other Costs Burden: $0.

(Authority: 44 U.S.C. 3507(a)(1)(D))

Nora Hernandez, Departmental Clearance Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

[Docket No. OSHA–2007–0043]

TUV SUD America, Inc.: Application for Expansion of Recognition and Proposed Modification to the NRTL Program's List of Appropriate Test Standards

AGENCY: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Labor.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In this notice, OSHA announces the application of TUV SUD America, Inc. (TUVAM) for expansion of recognition as a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) and presents the agency’s preliminary finding to grant the application.
Additionally, OSHA proposes to add two test standards to the NRTL Program’s List of Appropriate Test Standards.

DATES: Submit comments, information, and documents in response to this notice, or requests for an extension of time to make a submission, on or before March 7, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Submit comments by any of the following methods:

- Electronically: You may submit comments and attachments electronically at: https://www.regulations.gov, which is the Federal eRulemaking Portal. Follow the instructions online for submitting comments.
- Docket: To read or download comments or other material in the docket, go to https://www.regulations.gov. Documents in the docket are listed in the https://www.regulations.gov index; however, some information (e.g., copyrighted material) is not publicly available to read or download through the website. All submissions, including copyrighted material, are available for inspection through the OSHA Docket Office. Contact the OSHA Docket Office at (202) 693–2350 (TTY [877] 889–5627) for assistance in locating docket submissions. Please note: While OSHA’s docket office is continuing to accept and process submissions by regular mail, due to the COVID–19 pandemic, the Docket Office is closed to the public and not able to receive submissions to the rulemaking record by express delivery, hand delivery, and messenger service.
- Instructions: All submissions must include the agency name and OSHA docket number for this Federal Register notice (OSHA–2007–0043). OSHA places comments and other materials, including any personal information, in the public docket without revision, and these materials will be available online at https://www.regulations.gov. Therefore, the agency cautions commenters about submitting statements they do not want made available to the public, or submitting comments that contain personal information (either about themselves or others) such as Social Security numbers, birth dates and medical data.
- Extension of comment period: Submit requests for an extension of the comment period on or before March 7, 2022 to the Office of Technical Programs and Coordination Activities, Directorate of Technical Support and Emergency Management, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Room N–3655, Washington, DC 20210, or by fax to (202) 693–1644.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Information regarding this notice is available from the following sources:

- Press inquiries: Contact Mr. Frank Meilinger, Director, OSHA Office of Communications, U.S. Department of Labor by phone (202) 693–1999 or email meilinger.francis@dol.gov.
- General and technical information: Contact Mr. Kevin Robinson, Director, Office of Technical Programs and Coordination Activities, Directorate of Technical Support and Emergency Management, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor by phone (202) 693–2110 or email robinson.kevin@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Notice of the Application for Expansion

OSHA is providing notice that TUV SUD America, Inc. (TUVAM) is applying for expansion of the current recognition as a NRTL. TUVAM requests the addition of eight test standards to their NRTL scope of recognition.

OSHA recognition of a NRTL signifies that the organization meets the requirements specified in 29 CFR 1910.7. Recognition is an acknowledgment that the organization can perform independent safety testing and certification of the specific products covered within its scope of recognition. Each NRTL’s scope of recognition includes (1) the type of products the NRTL may test, with each type specified by its applicable test standard; and (2) the recognized site(s) that has/have the technical capability to perform the product-testing and product-certification activities for test standards within the NRTL’s scope. Recognition is not a delegation or grant of government authority; however, recognition enables employers to use products approved by the NRTL to meet OSHA standards that require product testing and certification.

The agency processes an application by a NRTL for initial recognition and for an expansion or renewal of this recognition, following requirements in Appendix A, 29 CFR 1910.7. This appendix requires that the agency publish two notices in the Federal Register in processing an application. In the first notice, OSHA announces the application and provides its preliminary finding. In the second notice, the agency provides the final decision on the application. These notices set forth the NRTL’s scope of recognition or modifications of that scope. OSHA maintains an informational web page for each NRTL, including TUVAM, which details the NRTL’s scope of recognition. These pages are available from the OSHA website at: https://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/nrtl/index.html.

TUVAM currently has seven facilities (sites) recognized by OSHA for product testing and certification, with its headquarters located at: TUV SUD America, Inc., 401 Edgewater Place, Suite 500, Wakefield, MA 01880. A complete list of TUVAM’s scope of recognition (including sites) recognized by OSHA is available at: https://www.osha.gov/dts/otpca/nrtl/tuvam.html.

II. General Background on the Application

TUVAM submitted an application, dated May 26, 2021 (OSHA–2007–0043–0038), to expand their recognition to include eight additional test standards. OSHA staff performed detailed analysis of the application packet and reviewed other pertinent information. OSHA did not perform any on-site reviews in relation to this application.

Table 1 below lists the appropriate test standards found in TUVAM’s application for expansion for testing and certification of products under the NRTL Program.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test standard</th>
<th>Test standard title</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UL 698A</td>
<td>Industrial Control Panels Related to Hazardous (Classified) Locations.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL 1004–9</td>
<td>Standard for Form Wound and Medium Voltage Rotating Electrical Machines.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UL 60947–1–1</td>
<td>Low-voltage Switchgear and Controlgear—Part 1: General Rules.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. Proposal To Add New Test Standards to the NRTL Program’s List of Appropriate Test Standards

Periodically, OSHA will propose to add new test standards to the NRTL list of appropriate test standards following an evaluation of the test standard document. To qualify as an appropriate test standard, the agency evaluates the document to: (1) Verify it represents a product category for which OSHA requires certification by a NRTL; (2) verify the document represents a product and not a component; and (3) verify the document defines safety test specifications (not installation or operational performance specifications). OSHA becomes aware of new test standards through various avenues. For example, OSHA may become aware of new test standards by: (1) Monitoring notifications issued by certain Standards Development Organizations; (2) reviewing applications by NRTLs or applicants seeking recognition to include new test standards in their scopes of recognition; and (3) obtaining notification from manufacturers, manufacturing organizations, government agencies, or other parties. OSHA may determine to include a new test standard in the list, for example, if the test standard is for a particular type of product that another test standard also covers or it covers a type of product that no standard previously covered.

In this notice, OSHA proposes to add two new test standards to the NRTL Program’s list of appropriate test standards. Table 2, below, lists the test standards that are new to the NRTL Program. OSHA preliminarily determined that these test standards are appropriate test standards. OSHA seeks public comment on this preliminary determination.

TABLE 2—STANDARDS OSHA IS PROPOSING TO ADD TO THE NRTL PROGRAM’S LIST OF APPROPRIATE TEST STANDARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test standard</th>
<th>Test standard title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UL 60947–5–1</td>
<td>Low-voltage Switchgear and Controlgear—Part 5–1: Control Circuit Devices and Switching Elements—Electromechanical Control Circuit Devices.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>UL 60947–5–5</em></td>
<td>In this notice, OSHA also proposes to add this test standard to the NRTL Program’s List of Appropriate Test Standards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. Preliminary Findings on the Application

TUVAVM submitted an acceptable application for expansion of the NRTL scope of recognition. OSHA’s review of the application file, and pertinent documentation, indicate that TUVAVM can meet the requirements prescribed by 29 CFR 1910.7 for expanding their recognition to include the addition of these eight test standards for NRTL testing and certification listed above. This preliminary finding does not constitute an interim or temporary approval of TUVAVM’s application. OSHA welcomes public comment as to whether TUVAVM meets the requirements of 29 CFR 1910.7 for expansion of the recognition as a NRTL. Comments should consist of pertinent written documents and exhibits. Commenters needing more time to comment must submit a request in writing, stating the reasons for the request. Commenters must submit the written request for an extension by the due date for comments. OSHA will limit any extension to 10 days unless the requester justifies a longer period. OSHA may deny a request for an extension if the request is not adequately justified. To obtain or review copies of the exhibits identified in this notice, as well as comments submitted to the docket, contact the Docket Office, at the above address. These materials also are available online at https://www.regulations.gov under Docket No. OSHA–2007–0043.

OSHA staff will review all comments to the docket submitted in a timely manner and, after addressing the issues raised by these comments, will make a recommendation to the Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health as to whether to grant TUVAVM’s application for expansion of the scope of recognition. The Assistant Secretary will make the final decision on granting the application. In making this decision, the Assistant Secretary may undertake other proceedings prescribed in Appendix A to 29 CFR 1910.7. OSHA will publish a public notice of its final decision in the Federal Register.

V. Authority and Signature

Douglas L. Parker, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, 200 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20210, authorized the preparation of this notice. Accordingly, the agency is issuing this notice pursuant to Section 29 U.S.C. 657(g)(2), Secretary of Labor’s Order No. 8–2020 (85 FR 58393; Sept. 18, 2020), and 29 CFR 1910.7.

Signed at Washington, DC.
Douglas L. Parker,
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health.