

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Standards Notice - 29

TO: All OSHA Consultants, Supervisors, Safety Officers, Industrial Hygienists, and Staff

SUBJECT: Sinks Used for Cleaning Operations

a. Standard

29 CFR 1910.108 (definition) - Dip tank. Shall mean a tank, vat, or container of flammable or combustible liquid in which articles or materials are immersed for the purpose of coating, finishing, treating, or similar processes.

b. Discussion

There has been confusion as to whether sinks containing flammable or combustible liquids used for cleaning of parts are "dip tanks" under section 29 CFR 1910.108(a)(1).

c. Interpretation

Dip tanks are described in great detail in section 29 CFR 1910.108. These specifications indicate that dip tanks are not of the same nature as sinks containing flammable and combustible liquids used for parts cleaning, which are therefore not subject to section 29 CFR 1910.108. The handling and storage of flammable and combustible liquids are covered by section 29 CFR 1910.106.

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Filing Date: 7/15/76
Number: 7D.0505