



2010 ACGIH TLV Updates

The 2010 ACGIH Threshold Limit Values have been updated and there were sizable reductions for some commonly used chemicals. The TWA for Hydrogen Sulfide (CAS 7783-06-4) has been reduced from 10 ppm to 1 ppm while the STEL for Hydrogen Sulfide has been reduced from 15 ppm to 5 ppm. The TWA for Methyl Isobutyl Ketone (CAS 108-10-1) was reduced from 50 ppm to 20 ppm. The Portland cement (CAS 108-10-1) TWA was reduced from 10 mg/m³ total to 1 mg/m³ respirable. If you have sampling data for these compounds you might want to review this historical data or reevaluate areas where these chemicals are used, to make sure you are still below these revised concentrations that are believed to be protective to employee's health.

An Oil Mist TWA of 5 mg/m³ has also been added. However, this TLV only applies to *pure oil* and does not apply to Metal Working Fluids, which are primarily water based solutions combined with various additives.

Changes of less commonly used chemicals include: The TWA of *a*-Methyl Styrene (CAS 98-83-9) was reduced from 20 ppm to 10 ppm. The Thallium (CAS 7440-28-0) TWA was reduced from 0.10 mg/m³ as total dust to 0.02 mg/m³ as inhalable dust. In addition, Citral (CAS 5392-40-5), a lemon fragrance and flavoring compound, was added and given a TWA of 5 ppm. The full list of compounds that were revised can be found on the [ACGIH](#) web site.

Chemicals that are being considered for changes in the Notices of Intended Changes (NIC) for the 2011 TLVs have also been published. Ethyl Benzene (CAS 100-41-4) is listed as having a NIC of 20 ppm TWA versus the existing TWA of 100 ppm. ACGIH has proposed to change the Manganese (CAS 7439-96-5) standard from total Manganese of 0.2 mg/m³ to an inhalable standard of 0.2 mg/m³. In addition the NIC suggests a respirable Manganese TLV of 0.02 mg/m³ TWA. The NIC for 2,4 and 2,6 Toluene Diisocyanate (TDI) (CAS 584-84-9; 91-08-7) would be reduced from 0.005 ppm to 0.001 ppm. While all NICs are not necessarily adopted they are listed as intended changes and to solicit comments from interested parties.

Suggestions or comments to these changes can be made by emailing science@acgih.org. Further information on current ACGIH TLV's and NIC's can be obtained by contacting www.acgih.org or calling 513-742-2020. Please call or email [Jim Kenny](mailto:Jim.Kenny) with any other questions.

Sincerely,

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Laboratory Manager

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