

Chapter 1 – Introduction

1. Purpose

The purpose of this manual is to provide technical internal working guidance for the practice of industrial hygiene (IH) to Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED) IH field personnel. It is not meant to dictate official policy unless referring specifically to federal or other regulatory agency, Department of Defense (DoD), Navy, or Marine Corps policy documents. Nothing in this document is intended to contradict or circumvent official policy or legal requirements.

2. Responsibilities

IH responsibilities are assigned in various instructions, including OPNAV M-5100.23 series. Essentially, these instructions assign all IH responsibilities to the Chief, BUMED.

3. Applicability

- a. The provisions of this manual apply to civilian and military industrial hygienists, IH technicians and workplace monitors at shore facilities and forces afloat worldwide. Exceptions or specific limitations are made, as required, for military unique equipment, systems, and operations including specific delineation of applicable provisions to forces afloat for conditions governed by other statutory authorities, and for conditions governed by international agreements overseas. These provisions apply to the Navy's government-owned, contractor-operated facilities only if they involve: (1) the occupational safety and health of Navy personnel; (2) situations in which the United States traditionally, by admiralty law or contract, is liable for contractor employee injuries (e.g., Military Sealift Command); and (3) with respect to contractor employees, only those specific occupational safety and health matters over which Department of Defense exercises statutory authority. In all other matters affecting the safety and health of contractor employees, the contractor is responsible to establish and maintain an effective worker health and safety program, including compliance with all legal requirements.
- b. Most of the information in this manual is presented in a way that assumes that the reader has a basic understanding of IH principles and methods. It is not intended to be a "how to" book for untrained personnel. Personnel who are untrained or lack experience in the field of IH should use this manual only under the direct supervision of an experienced industrial hygienist.



4. Changes

The field of IH is constantly changing and this manual will be updated/revised as necessary. Comments and recommendations to improve this manual are desired and welcomed. Forward your comments by email to: [Ask IH](#) or by mail to:

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