




policy NEWS.

STREAMLINED LIFTING STANDARD REDUCES REDUNDANCY AND CLARIFIES PROCESSES

Aug. 13, 2015

Updates to NASA-STD-8719.9, Lifting Standard reduce redundancy and clarify Lifting Devices and Equipment processes.

Updates to NASA-STD-8719.9, Lifting Standard (formerly Standard For Lifting Devices and Equipment) went into effect on Aug. 13, 2015.

NASA-STD-8719.9 provides NASA-specific requirements for use of Lifting Devices and Equipment (LDE). The NASA-specific requirements should be followed **in addition to** any Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations and applicable National Consensus Standards (NCS).

The resulting standard is significantly reduced in size, with a reduction of approximately 75% in the number of “shall” statements.

WHAT REMAINED THE SAME.

The NASA Alternate Standard for Suspended Load Operations (found in Appendix A) has not changed. In addition, while various technical changes were made and the total number of “shalls” decreased significantly, most requirements did not change. That is, the decision to refrain from repeating regulatory requirements and NCS made mandatory by regulatory requirements does not change their mandatory nature.

WHAT'S NEW.

The following changes were made to the revised standard:

1. Regulatory or mandatory NCS requirements believed to be most commonly applied were **removed**. The new standard makes clear the requirement to follow those standards without repeating them.

IMPACT:

Previously some, but not all, OSHA and applicable NCS requirements were repeated in their respective sections, leading to confusion as to whether any requirements not listed were still mandatory. This confusion is removed (Those requirements always were, and continue to be, mandatory).

2. A general LDE requirements chapter was **added**. (See Chapter 4.)

IMPACT:

Rather than repeating general NASA-specific requirements for each type of LDE, those common requirements are now placed ahead of the series of chapters that address the specific categories of equipment.

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3. Detailed appendices were **added** on critical lift requirements and LDE manager roles, approvals and special permissions appendices. (See Appendices B and C).

IMPACT

The critical lift requirements were brought together into Appendix B to make it easier to identify those applicable to a particular lift and type of equipment.

Similarly, to make it easier for both the LDE manager and user organizations to recognize LDE manager responsibilities and items subject to LDE manager approval, these requirements were gathered into Appendix C.

TAKE ACTION

LDE managers, Safety and Mission Assurance technical authorities, and safety officers should review the changes to this standard and share it with project managers and LDE users.