



# Oregon

Theodore R. Kulongoski, Governor

## Department of Consumer and Business Services

Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (OR-OSHA)

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January 6, 1997

Steve Brinkhoff  
Oregon Liquor Control Commission  
9079 SE McLoughlin Blvd  
Portland OR 97222-7355

Dear Mr. Brinkhoff:

This is in response to your letter requesting information about safety requirements for your liquor enforcement inspectors as related to the use of certain equipment.

Your first question asked about objective criteria for risk assessment for the inspectors. Oregon-OSHA does not have such criteria and apparently neither does anybody else. This subject has been discussed at length by our Public Safety Advisory Committee and no general objective criteria have been found. OLCC might wish to have a representative on this committee. More information is available from David Sparks at 378-3272.

The question of the degree to which safety devices may increase worker safety would require great speculation on our part. This would follow from a risk assessment. We have no data to support an answer.

The third question asked about the effect of making equipment use voluntary or required. Oregon-OSHA has no standard requiring this equipment. Generally, we require employers to provide such devices as may be necessary to reduce employee exposure to identified hazards. Whether the equipment you mentioned would do this or not is related to your assessment of the hazards.

The fourth question deals with needed training for this equipment should you decide to provide it. Oregon-OSHA requires employers to adequately train all employees in the safe use of any equipment required for their jobs. The level of training certainly has a relationship to the amount of safety gained from using the equipment but it generally is not measurable.

The fifth and last question asks for our advice about steps to maximize safety gained from use of the equipment you mentioned. Again, we have no specific requirements or advice. We do advise that you follow the manufacturer's instructions and

recommendations and use the experience of procedures of other agencies with the equipment as the foundation for your programs.

For further information contact Ron Preece at 378-3272. You are also invited to see the OR-OSHA pages on the Internet at [www.cbs.state.or.us/external/osha/index.html](http://www.cbs.state.or.us/external/osha/index.html).

Sincerely,

Marilyn K. Schuster, Manager  
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Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division