

THE MANLIFTS STANDARD (29 CFR 1910.68(e))

OMB Control Number: 1218-0226

Expiration Date: December 31, 2023

**SUPPORTING STATEMENT FOR
THE INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS OF
THE MANLIFTS STANDARD (29 CFR 1910.68(e))¹
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET (OMB)
CONTROL NUMBER 1218-0226**

This is an extension request of a currently approved data collection.

A. JUSTIFICATION

1. Explain the circumstances that make the collection of information necessary. Identify any legal or administrative requirements that necessitate the collection. Attach a copy of the appropriate section of each statute and regulation mandating or authorizing the collection of information.

The main objective of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (i.e., “the Act”) is to “assure so far as possible every working man and woman in the Nation safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve our human resources” (29 U.S.C. 651). To achieve this objective, the Act authorizes “the development and promulgation of occupational safety and health standards” (29 U.S.C. 651).

With regard to recordkeeping, the Act specifies that “[e]ach employer shall make, keep and preserve, and make available to the Secretary . . . such records . . . as the Secretary . . . may prescribe by regulation as necessary or appropriate for the enforcement of this Act . . .” (29 U.S.C. 657). The Act states further that “[t]he Secretary . . . shall prescribe such rules and regulations as [he/she] may deem necessary to carry out [his/her] responsibilities under this Act, including rules and regulations dealing with the inspection of an employer’s establishment” (29 U.S.C. 657).

Under the authority granted by the Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (i.e., “OSHA” or “the agency”) published at 29 CFR 1910.68(e) a safety standard for general industry regulating the use of manlifts (i.e., “the Standard”). The paperwork provisions of the Standard specify requirements for inspecting manlifts; and developing, maintaining, and disclosing inspection records.

2. Indicate how, by whom, and for what purpose the information is to be used. Except for a new collection, indicate the actual use the agency has made of the information received from the current collection.

¹ The purpose of this Supporting Statement is to analyze and describe the burden hours and costs associated with a provision of this standard that contains a paperwork requirement; this Supporting Statement does not provide information or guidance on how to comply with, or how to enforce, the Standard.

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The Standard specifies two paperwork requirements. The following sections describe who uses the information collected under each requirement, as well as how they use it. The purpose of the requirements is to reduce workers' risk of death or serious injury by ensuring that manlifts are in a safe operating condition.

Periodic Inspections and Records (paragraph (e)).

This provision requires that each manlift be inspected at least once every 30 days and it also requires that limit switches shall be checked weekly. The manlift inspection is to cover at least the following items: steps; step fastenings; rails; rail supports and fastenings; rollers and slides; belt and belt tension; handholds and fastenings; floor landings; guardrails; lubrication; limit switches; warning signs and lights; illumination; drive pulley; bottom (boot) pulley and clearance; pulley supports; motor; driving mechanism; brake; electrical switches; vibration and misalignment; and any "skip" on the up or down run when mounting a step (indicating worn gears). A certification record of the inspection must be prepared upon completion of the inspection. The record must contain the date of the inspection, the signature of the person who performed the inspection, and the serial number or other identifiers of the inspected manlift.

Disclosure of Inspection Certification Records.

Employers are to maintain the certification record and make it available to OSHA compliance officers upon request. This record provides assurance to employers, workers, and compliance officers that manlifts were inspected as required by the Standard. The inspections are made to keep equipment in safe operating condition; thereby, preventing manlift failure while carrying workers to elevated worksites. These records also provide the most efficient means for the compliance officers to determine that an employer is complying with the Standard. Usually, OSHA requests access to records during an inspection.

The agency in consultation with OMB determined that information collected by the agency during the investigation is not subject to the PRA under 5 CFR 1320.4(a)(2). Therefore, OSHA takes no burden or cost for the disclosure of records.

3. Describe whether, and to what extent, the collection of information involves the use of automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses, and the basis for the decision for adopting this means of collection. Also describe any consideration of using information technology to reduce burdens.

Employers may use automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological information collection techniques, or other forms of information technology (e.g., electronic submission of responses) when establishing and maintaining the required records. The agency wrote the paperwork requirements of the Standard in the performance-oriented language (i.e., in terms of what data to collect, not how to record the data).

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4. Describe efforts to identify duplication. Show specifically why any similar information already available cannot be used or modified for use for the purpose(s) described in A.2 above.

The requirements to collect and maintain information are specific to each employer and worker involved, and no other source or agency duplicates these requirements or can make the required information available to OSHA (i.e., the required information is available only from employers).

5. If the collection of information impacts small businesses or other small entities, describe the methods used to reduce the burden.

The information collection requirements specified by the Standard do not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities.

6. Describe the consequence to Federal program or policy activities if the collection is or is not conducted less frequently and any technical or legal obstacles to reducing the burden.

The agency believes that the information collection frequencies required by the Standard are the minimum frequencies necessary to effectively regulate manlifts, and thereby fulfill its mandate “to assure so far as possible every working man and woman in the nation safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve our human resources” as specified in the Act at 29 U.S.C. 651. Accordingly, if employers do not perform the required information collections, or delay in providing this information, workers may use manlifts that are in unsafe operating condition.

7. Explain any special circumstances that would cause an information collection to be conducted in a manner:

- **requiring respondents to report information to the agency more often than quarterly;**
- **requiring respondents to prepare a written response to a collection of information in fewer than 30 days after receipt of it;**
- **requiring respondents to submit more than an original and two copies of any document;**
- **requiring respondents to retain records, other than health, medical, government contract, grant-in-aid, or tax records for more than three years;**
- **in connection with a statistical survey that is not designed to produce valid and reliable results that can be generalized to the universe of study;**
- **requiring the use of statistical data classification that has not been reviewed and approved by OMB;**
- **that includes a pledge of confidentiality that is not supported by authority established in**

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statute or regulation that is not supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, or which unnecessarily impedes sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use; or

- **requiring respondents to submit proprietary trade secret, or other confidential information unless the agency can prove that it has instituted procedures to protect the information's confidentiality to the extent permitted by law.**

No special circumstances exist that require employers to collect information using the procedures specified by this item. The requirements are within the guidelines set forth in 5 CFR 1320.5.

- 8. If applicable, provide a copy and identify the date and page number of publication in the Federal Register of the agency's notice, required by 5 CFR 1320.8(d), soliciting comments on the information collection before submission to OMB. Summarize public comments received in response to that notice and describe actions taken by the agency in response to those comments specifically address comments received on cost and hour burdens.**

Describe efforts to consult with persons outside the agency to obtain their views on the availability of data, frequency of collection, the clarity of instructions and recordkeeping, disclosure, or reporting format (if any), and on the data elements to be recorded, revealed, or reported.

Consultation with representatives of those from whom information is to be obtained or those who must compile records should occur at least once every three years -- even if the collection of information activity is the same as in prior periods. There may be circumstances that mitigate against consultation in a specific situation. These circumstances should be explained.

As required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), OSHA published a notice in the Federal Register on May 18, 2023 (88 FR 31824) requesting public comments on the proposed extension of the information collection requirement contained in the Manlifts Standard (29 CFR 1910.68(e)) (Docket No. OSHA-2010-0051). This notice was part of a preclearance consultation program that provided interested parties with an opportunity to comment on OSHA's request for an extension by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) of previous approval of the information collection requirement found in the above Standard.

The agency received one anonymous public comment in response to this notice, under Docket No. OSHA-2010-0051-0015. We appreciate your response. However, the comment is outside the scope of this ICR, which is meant to extend the existing collection of information requirements for another three years.

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9. Explain any decision to provide any payments or gift to respondents, other than remuneration of contractors or grantees.

The agency will not provide payments or gifts to the respondents.

10. Describe any assurance of confidentiality provided to respondents and the basis for the assurance in statute, regulation, or agency policy.

The paperwork requirements specified by the Standard do not involve confidential information.

11. Provide additional justification for any questions of a sensitive nature, such as sexual behavior and attitudes, religious beliefs, and other matters that are commonly considered private. This justification should include the reasons why the agency considers the questions necessary, the specific uses to be made of the information, the explanation to be given to persons from whom the information is requested, and any steps to be taken to obtain their consent.

None of the provisions in the Standard require sensitive information.

12. Provide estimates of the hour burden of the collection of information. The statement should:

- **Indicate the number of respondents, frequency of response, annual hour burden, and an explanation of how the burden was estimated. Unless directed to do so, agencies should not conduct special surveys to obtain information on which to base hour burden estimates. Consultation with a sample (fewer than 10) of potential respondents is desirable. If the hour burden on respondents is expected to vary widely because of differences in activity, size, or complexity, show the range of estimated hour burden, and explain the reasons for the variance. Generally, estimates should not include burden hours for customary and usual business practices.**
- **If this request for approval covers more than one form, provide separate hour burden estimates for each form.**
- **Provide estimates of annualized cost to respondents for the hour burdens for collections of information, identifying and using appropriate wage-rate categories. The cost of contracting out or paying outside parties for information collection activities should not be included here. Instead, this cost should be included in Item 14.**

Respondent Burden-Hour and Cost Burden Determinations

The agency believes that the number of manlifts in use today (3,000) is still accurate based on the 3,000 estimated in the previous ICR. This information was confirmed by Humphrey

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Manlift Company, Inc.; a leading manufacturer of manlifts who was contacted by a staff member.²

The agency determined the wage rate from mean hourly wage earnings to represent the cost of employee time. For the relevant standard occupational classification category, OSHA used the wage rates reported in the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor. *Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), May 2021* [date accessed: April 6, 2023]. (OEWS data is available at [Helpers--Production Workers \(bls.gov\)](https://www.bls.gov)). To access a wage rate, select the year “Occupational Profiles,” and the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) Code).

To derive the loaded hourly wage rate presented in the table below, the agency used data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics’ (BLS) *Occupational Employment Wage Statistics (OEWS)*, as described in the paragraph above. Then, the agency applied to the wage rate a fringe benefit markup based on Table 2 of the following BLS release: *Employer Costs for Employee Compensation – December 2022* news release text; released 10:00 AM (EDT), March 17, 2023 (<https://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecec.nr0.htm>). BLS reported that for private industry workers, fringe benefits accounted for 29.5 percent of total compensation and wages accounted for the remaining 70.5 percent. To calculate the loaded hourly wage for each occupation, the agency divided the mean hourly wage rate by 1 minus the fringe benefits.

Table 1: WAGE HOUR ESTIMATES				
Occupational Title	Standard Occupational Code	Mean Hourly Wage Rate (A)	Fringe Benefits (B)	Loaded Hourly Wage Rate (C) = A*(1/1-B)
Helpers – Production Workers	51-9198	\$15.82	0.295	\$22.44

Inspections and Certification Records (1910.68(e))

OSHA assumes that employers perform the required inspection on each manlift 12 times a year, and that a manufacturing worker spends 1 hour to conduct the inspection and 3 minutes to generate and maintain an inspection certification record for each manlift. Therefore, the total annual burden hour and cost estimates for this paperwork requirement are:

Burden hours: 3,000 manlifts x 12 inspections x 63/60 hour = 37,800 hours

Cost: 37,800 hours x \$22.44 = \$848,232

Disclosure of Inspection Certification Records

² This information was confirmed by ORA.

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The agency has no annualized hours or costs associated with enforcing the Standard. OSHA would only review records in the context of an investigation of a particular employer to determine compliance with the Standard. These activities are outside the scope of the PRA. See 5 CFR 1320.4(a)(2).

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Table 2: Estimated Annualized Respondent Hour and Cost Burden

Information Collection Requirements	Type of Respondent	No. of Respondents	No. of Responses per Respondent	Total No. of Responses	Time per Response (In Hrs.)	Total Burden Hours	Loaded Hourly Wage Rate	Total Burden Costs
Inspections and Certification Records (1910.68(e))	Worker	3,000	12	36,000	63/60 (1.05 h)	37,800	\$22.44	\$848,232
GRAND TOTAL		3,000		36,000		37,800		\$848,232

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13. Provide an estimate of the total annual cost burden to respondents or recordkeepers resulting from the collection of information. (Do not include the cost of any hour burden shown in Items 12 and 14.)

- **The cost estimate should be split into two components: (a) a total capital and start-up cost component annualized over its expected useful life); and (b) a total operation and maintenance and purchase of service component. The estimates should take into account costs associated with generating, maintaining, and disclosing or providing the information. Include descriptions of methods used to estimate major cost factors including system and technology acquisition, expected useful life of capital equipment, the discount rate(s), and the time period over which costs will be incurred. Capital and start-up costs include, among other items, preparations for collecting information such as purchasing computers and software; monitoring, sampling, drilling and testing equipment; and record storage facilities.**
- **If cost estimates are expected to vary widely, agencies should present ranges of cost burdens and explain the reasons for the variance. The cost of purchasing or contracting out information**

collection services should be a part of this cost burden estimate. In developing cost burden estimates, agencies may consult with a sample of respondent (fewer than 10), utilize the 60-day pre-OMB submission public comment process and use existing economic or regulatory impact analysis associated with the rulemaking containing the information collection, as appropriate.

- **Generally, estimates should not include purchases of equipment or services, or portions thereof, made: (1) prior to October 1, 1995, (2) to achieve regulatory compliance with requirements not associated with the information collection, (3) for reasons other than to provide information or keep records for the government, or (4) as part of customary and usual business or private practices.**

Item 12 above provides the total cost of the information collection requirements specified by the Standard. Therefore, there is no cost to the respondent.

14. Provide estimates of the annualized cost to the Federal Government. Also, provide a description of the method used to estimate cost, which should include quantification of hours, operational expenses (such as equipment, overhead, printing, and support staff), and any other expense that would not have been incurred without this collection of information. Agencies also may aggregate cost estimates from Items 12, 13, and 14 into a single table.

There is no cost to the Federal government.

15. Explain the reasons for any program changes or adjustments.

The agency is requesting to retain the estimated burden of 37,800 hours. The total number of

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responses remains the same at 36,000 for the number of inspections certifications maintained annually. See Table 2.

Table 3 – Summary of Adjustment in Burden Hours

Collection of Information	Current Burden Hours	Requested Burden Hours	Adjustment
Inspections and Certification Records (1910.68(e))	37,800	37,800	0
Totals	37,800	37,800	0

16. For collections of information whose results will be published, outline plans for tabulation, and publication. Address any complex analytical techniques that will be used. Provide the time schedule for the entire project, including beginning and ending dates of the collection information, completion of report, publication dates, and other actions.

OSHA will not publish the information collected under the Standard.

17. If seeking approval to not display the expiration date for OMB approval of the information collection, explain the reasons that display would be appropriate.

OSHA lists current valid control numbers in §§1910.8, 1915.8, 1917.4, 1918.4, and 1926.5 and publishes the expiration date in the Federal Register notice announcing OMB approval of the information collection requirement. (See 5 CFR 1320.3(f)(3).) OSHA believes that this is the most appropriate and accurate mechanism to inform interested parties of these expiration dates.

18. Explain each exception to the certification statement.

OSHA is not seeking such an exception.

B. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISICAL METHODS

This Supporting Statement does not contain any collection of information requirements that employ statistical methods.