APPENDIX D

Bloodborne Pathogen Definitions

Paragraph (b) of the Standard provides definitions and each should be thoroughly understood for proper applications. A partial list of words is set forth below:

**Blood** – human blood, human blood components, and products made from human blood or its components.

**Bloodborne Pathogens** – pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

**Contaminated** – the presence, or the reasonable anticipated presence, of blood or other potentially infectious materials on an item or surface.

**Contaminated Laundry** – laundry which has been soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials.

**Contaminated Sharps** – any contaminated object that can penetrate the skin including, but not limited to, needles, scalpels, broken glass, broken capillary tubes, and exposed dental wires.

**Decontamination** – the use of physical or chemical means to remove, inactivate, or destroy bloodborne pathogens on a surface or item to the point where they are no longer capable of transmitting infectious particles and the surface or item is rendered safe to handling, use or disposal.

**Engineering Controls** – controls (e.g., sharps disposal containers, shelf-sheathing needles) that isolate or remove the hazard of bloodborne pathogens from the workplace.

**Exposure Incident** – a specific eye, mouth, other mucous membrane, non-intact skin, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that results from the performance of an employee’s duties.

**Hand Washing Facilities** – an area that provides an adequate supply of running potable water, soap, and single use towels or hot air drying machines for hand washing.

**Licensed Health Care Professional (HCP)** – a person whose legally permitted scope of practice allows him or her to independently perform the activities required by section (f) of the Standard, Hepatitis B Vaccination and Post-Exposure Evaluation and Follow-up.

**HBV** – Hepatitis B Virus

**HCV** – Hepatitis C Virus

**HIV** – Human Immunodeficiency Virus
Occupational Exposure – reasonably anticipated skin, eye, mucous membrane, or parenteral contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials that may result from the performance of an employee’s duties.

Other Potentially Infectious Materials

1. Human Body Fluids: semen, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, pericardial fluid, peritoneal fluid, amniotic fluid, saliva in dental procedures, any body fluid that is visibly contaminated with blood, and all body fluids in situations where it is difficult or impossible to differentiate between body fluids.
2. Any unfixed tissue or organ (other than intact skin) from a human (living or dead).
3. HIV-containing cell or tissue cultures, organ cultures, and HIV- or HBV-containing culture medium or other solutions; and blood, organs, or other tissues from experimental animal infected with HIV or HBV.

Parenteral – piercing mucous membranes or the skin barrier through such events as needlesticks, human bites, cuts, and abrasions.

Personal Protective Equipment – specialized clothing or equipment worn by an employee for protection against a hazard. General work clothes (e.g., uniforms, pants, shirts, or blouses) not intended to function as protection against a hazard are not considered to be personal protective equipment.

Regulated Waste – liquid or semi-liquid blood or other potentially infectious materials; contaminated items that would release blood or other potentially infectious materials in a liquid or semi-liquid state if compressed; items that are caked with dried blood or other potentially infectious materials and are capable of releasing these materials during handling; contaminated sharps, and pathological and microbiological wastes containing blood or other potentially infectious materials.

Source Individual – any individual, living or dead, whose blood or other potentially infectious materials may be a source of occupational exposure to the employee. Examples include, but are not limited to, hospital and clinic patients; clients in institutions for the developmentally disabled; trauma victims, clients of drug and alcohol treatment facilities; residents of hospices and nursing homes; human remains; and individuals who donate or sell blood or blood components.

Sterilize – the use of a physical or chemical procedure to destroy all microbial life, including highly resistant bacterial endospores.

Universal Precautions – an approach to infection control in which all human blood and certain human body fluids are treated as if known to be infectious for HIV, HBV, HCV, and other bloodborne pathogens.

Work Practice Controls – controls that reduce the likelihood of exposure by altering the manner in which a task is performed (e.g., prohibiting recapping of needles by a two-handed technique).

Needle or Needle Device – a needle of any type, including, but not limited to, solid and hollow-bore needles.

Needleless System – a device that does not utilize needles for:
1. The withdrawal of body fluids after initial venous or arterial access is established.
2. The administration of medication or fluids; and
3. Any other procedure involving the potential for an exposure incident.

**Sharps Injury** – any injury caused by a sharp, including, but not limited to, cuts, abrasions, or needlesticks.

**Sharps Injury Log** – a written or electronic record satisfying the requirements of subsection (c) (2).