

## Alberta Small Employer OHS Legislated Requirements

**Industry Code: 42122**  
**Mechanical Contracting**

**This document is a guideline only.** Employers have a responsibility of assessing all applicable occupational health and safety legislation, for the tasks they are performing.

Mechanical contracting is an industry term to describe the plumbing, steam and gas fitting activities conducted in the industry.

Task description	Type of equipment used and workers employed
<p>This is a supply and install industry, which includes the installation, repair and maintenance of various residential, commercial, oilfield, institutional and industrial mechanical systems.</p> <p>Mechanical contractors sell, service and install residential and commercial washroom, kitchen and laundry room fixtures and other similar piping, fittings and fixture service work required in the use and distribution of water in a house or building.</p> <p>A business may also sell and install water softeners, install and service hot tubs, hot water tanks/heaters, humidifiers, and install pool equipment. Services in this industry may also include tapping water lines, auger/clean residential drainage systems.</p>	<p>Workers include; plumbers, with support from refrigeration or electrical technicians or other technical staff, labourers, carpenters, sales/estimators, store clerks and personnel, administrative staff, and warehouse staff</p> <p>Equipment includes; handtools, pipecutters/benders, solder, racks, forklifts, excavators, deep core drill and trucks.</p>
<p>A mechanical contractor may also do steam and gas fitting service work on commercial and institutional furnaces, heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems. In the oilfield, a mechanical contractor may service and repair pneumatic equipment and controls used to measure flow line production.</p> <p>The installation of Geo-thermal Heating and Cooling Systems.</p>	

Relevant sections of OHS Legislation:

Occupational Health and Safety Act	
<b>Section</b>	2 Obligations of employers, workers, etc.
	3 Prime contractor
	4 Multiple obligations
	18 Serious injuries and accidents
	19 Investigation of accidents
	35 Existence of imminent danger
	37 Disciplinary action complaint

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### Occupational Health and Safety Regulation

<b>Section</b>	7	Availability of specifications
	12	Equipment
	13	General protection of workers
	14	Duties of workers
	15	Safety training

### Occupational Health and Safety Code (2009)

#### Part 1 Section

Definitions and	2.1	Availability of legislation
General Application	2.2	Designated person to prepare plan

#### Part 2 Section

Hazard Assessment,	7	Hazard assessment
Elimination and	8	Worker participation
Control	9	Hazard elimination and control

#### Part 3 Section

Specifications and	12	Following specifications
Certifications	13	Manufacturer's and Professional Engineer's specifications
	14	Certification by a professional engineer
	15	Approved equipment

#### Part 4 Section

Chemical Hazards,	16	Worker exposure to harmful substance
Biological Hazards	21	Potential worker exposure
and Harmful	22	Worker overexposure
Substances	24	Emergency baths, showers, eye wash equipment

**Refer to schedule 1**

#### Part 7 Section

Emergency	115	Emergency response plan
Preparedness and	116	Contents of plan
Response	117	Rescue and evacuation workers
	118	Equipment

#### Part 8 Section

Entrances, Walkways,	119	Safe entry and exit
Stairways and Ladders	120	Doors
	121	Walkways, runways and ramps
	122	Stairways
	123	Handrails on stairways
	124	Ladders, restriction on work
	126	Prohibition on painting
	127	Use near energized electrical equipment

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	128	Portable ladders, prohibition
	134	Constructed portable ladder
	135	Manufactured portable ladder
	136	Securing and positioning
	137	Fall protection

<b>Part 9</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Fall Protection	139	General protection
	140	Fall protection plan
	141	Instruction of workers
	142	Full body harness
	143	Connectors, carabiners and snap hooks
	144	Fall arrestors
	150	Equipment compatibility
	150.1	Inspection and maintenance
	150.2	Removal from service
	151	Clearance, maximum arresting force and swing
	152.1	Anchor strength - temporary
	152.1	Anchor strength - permanent
	152.2	Duty to use anchors
	152.3	Independence of anchors

<b>Part 10</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Fire and Explosion Hazards	161.1	Flammable or explosive atmospheres a hazard
	162	Prohibitions
	162.1	Classification of work sites
	163	Procedures and precautions
	164	Contaminated skin and clothing
	165	Protective procedures and precautions in hazardous locations
	166	Internal combustion engines
	169	Hot work
	170	Hot taps
	171	Compressed and liquefied gas
	171.1	Welding - general

<b>Part 11</b>	<b>Section</b>	
First Aid	178	Providing services, supplies, equipment
	179	Location of first aid
	180	Emergency transportation
	181	First aid providers
	182	Duty to report injury or illness
	183	Record of injury or illness
	184	First aid record access
<b>Refer to Schedule 2</b>		

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Part 12	Section	
General Safety	185	Housekeeping
Precautions	186	Lighting
	188	Restraining hoses and piping
	189	Securing equipment and materials

Part 14	Section	
Lifting and Handling	208	Equipment
Loads	209	Adapting to heavy or awkward loads
	210	Assessing manual handling hazards

Part 15	Section	
Managing the Control of Hazardous Energy	212	Isolation
	213	Verifying isolation
	214	Securing by individual workers
	215.3	Returning to operation
	215.4	Isolating piping
	215.5	Pigging and testing of pipelines

Part 16	Section	
Noise Exposure	218	Worker exposure to noise
	222	Hearing protection
	<b>Refer to schedule 3</b>	

Part 18	Section	
Personal Protective Equipment	228	Duty to use personal protective equipment
	229	Eye protection (compliance with standards)
	233	Footwear
	234	Head protection
	242	Limb and body protection
	243	Skin protection
	244	Respiratory dangers
	245	Code of practice

Part 19	Section	
Powered Mobile Equipment	256	Operator Responsibilities
	257	Visual inspection
	258	Dangerous movement
	260	Inspection and maintenance
	261	Maintenance on elevated parts
	262	Starting engines
	263	Unattended equipment
	264	Lights
	265	Windows and windshields
	266	Other safety equipment

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	273	Recertification after modification
	274	Fuel tank in cab
	279	Refuelling

<b>Part 22</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Safeguards	310	Safeguards
	311	Tampering with safeguards
	312	No safeguards
	314	Covering openings
	315	Guardrails
	318	Protection from falling objects
	321	Toe boards

<b>Part 23</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Scaffolds	323	CSA Standard applies
	324	Design
	325	Load
	326	Tagging requirements
	327	Vertical ladder on scaffold
	328	Working from a ladder
	329	Scaffold planks
	330	Scaffold platform
	331	Metal scaffolding
	334	Free-standing or rolling scaffolds
	338	Outrigger scaffolds
	346	Worker safety (elevated platforms and aerial devices)
	347	Standards
	349	Fork-mounted work platforms
	<b>Refer to schedule 6</b>	

<b>Part 24</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Toilets and Washing	254	Restrictions by employer
Facilities	355	Drinking fluids
	356	Exception (temp. site)
	357	Toilet facilities

<b>Part 25</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Tools, Equipment and Machinery	362	Contact by clothing, etc.
	375	Grinders

<b>Part 27</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Violence	389	Hazard assessment
	390	Policy and procedures
	391	Instruction of workers
	392	Response to incidents

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<b>Part 28</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Working Alone	393	Application
	394	Precautions required (communication)

<b>Part 29</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Workplace Hazardous	397	Training
Materials Information	398	Label required
System (WHMIS)	400	Decanted products
	404	Material Safety Data Sheet - Supplier
	406	Information current (MSDS)
	407	Availability of Material Safety Data Sheet

<b>Part 32</b>	<b>Section</b>	
Excavating and Tunnelling	441	Disturbing the ground
	442	Classification of soil type
	443	Soil stabilization
	444	Marking and excavation
	445	Water hazard
	446	Worker access
	450	Methods of protection
	451	Cutting back walls
	452	Loose material
	453	Spoil piles
	454	Power pole support
	455	Safe entry and exit
	459	Access for powered mobile equipment
<b>Refer to schedule 9</b>		