

parts. So I would conclude that the effect on inventory cost would be minimal.

Small engine distributors and dealers will have to double up on some tools during the transition period. They will need the non-metric tools they have now, but they will need metric tools also.

Many of our present tools will need no conversion. Others such as socket wrenches, open end wrenches, torque wrenches, pressure gauges, and micrometers must be sized or calibrated to the metric scale. The cost of equipping a dealership with metric tools is moderate.

Will we have to train dealers in the metric system? Probably not. For one thing, many of them already work with metric engines — snowmobile engines, motorcycle engines, diesel engines — and I suspect they worked into it without any special training in the metric system.

Also, dealers order replacement parts by part number, whether the parts are metric or non-metric.

Thirdly, at the risk of repetition, the transition will be gradual and dealers will learn to think metric and talk metric almost without realizing it.

Actually, this discussion can be summarized in a few words:

The United States is going metric. Legislation is imminent. Companies are already changing.

Small engine manufacturers are going metric. New designs are apt to be metric, while production continues for a while on non-metric models. Or we could say it this way — as older models are dropped from the product line, new products will be metric.

Small engine distributors and dealers are going metric. And they will do so at minimum cost, with minimum effort, and so gradually that they will be part of the metric world before they know it.

Along the way, we will forget a few things — like the "perfect 36." Or that time-honored saying, "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure." And Texans will have to give up, or resize, the 10-gallon hat.

Required OSHA Poster Revised By Dept. of Labor

The U.S. Department of Labor has announced publication of a revised "Safety and Health Protection on the Job" poster.

The new poster, required by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to be posted in most of the nation's workplaces, is a more de-

tailed copy of the original notice.

Assistant Secretary of Labor John H. Stender, head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), said the new poster "summarizes the provisions of the Act in easily understandable language so that both employer and employee will understand their rights and responsibilities under the law."

The revised, two-color notice includes a summary of the general responsibilities of employers and employees for creating safe and healthful workplaces. It explains the rights of an employee during an OSHA in-

spection, and summarizes the employee complaint procedures under the Act.

The poster also describes the citation provisions of the Act and details the various penalties that can be imposed. It also describes OSHA's commitment to voluntary compliance as an integral part of its efforts.

The poster is available, without charge, at any OSHA Regional Office. These offices are located in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, New York City, Philadelphia, San Francisco, and Seattle.



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