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STPS publishes inspection protocol on subcontracting

On 24 November 2025, the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (STPS) published the **Inspection Protocol on Subcontracting matters**, whose main purpose is to standardize the criteria and guidelines to be followed by federal labor inspectors during various oversight actions. The document also sets forth the methodology for identifying potential non-compliance and establishes mechanisms for the exchange of

strategic information with authorities such as the Tax Administration Service (SAT), the Mexican Social Security Institute (IMSS), and the National Workers' Housing Fund Institute (INFONAVIT).

This Protocol shall apply to procedures through which the labor authority carries out oversight actions, including REPSE verification visits, inspections related to

subcontracting, and ordinary and extraordinary inspections with a cross-cutting approach. REPSE verification visits will be conducted at companies holding a valid REPSE registration or those seeking to obtain such registration.

Furthermore, the Protocol differentiates between prohibited subcontracting, irregular subcontracting, and simulated subcontracting, providing specific definitions for each category. It also establishes detailed requirements for reviewing specialized services agreements, as well as other elements and activities aimed at verifying compliance with subcontracting regulations.

Finally, the Protocol provides that inspectors may interview employees during oversight actions to inquire about matters such as the companies from which they receive payments or instructions, any training or courses provided, and whether they perform their entire workday at the company where they render their services.

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