



Company Name: _____ Job Site Location: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____ Foreman/Supervisor: _____

Topic 222: OSHA's Top Ten Most Frequently Cited Violations

Introduction: The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is the government entity that monitors and regulates workplace safety. The Government has determined that every worker in the United States is entitled, without exception, to a safe workplace. Some States have their own approved OSHA which, at a minimum, must conform and comply with Federal OSHA standards. The mission of these agencies is to compel all employers to provide a safe, healthful workplace and the employee training is to recognize and resolve unsafe conditions and practices in the workplace. Even with all the regulation, each year there are hundreds of thousands of injuries and thousands of fatalities.

Following are the 10 most frequently cited OSHA violations for construction contractors:

- 1. General Requirements for all types of Scaffolding (9012 citations)** Regulations require that “scaffolds shall be designed by a qualified person and shall be constructed and loaded in accordance with that design.”
- 2. Hazard Communication (6704 citations)** Regulations require that “employers must provide employees with training and information on hazardous chemicals in their work areas at the time of initial assignment or whenever a new hazard is introduced.”
- 3. Fall Protection Training (6378 citations)** Regulations require that “employers shall provide a training program for each employee who might be exposed to fall hazards...”
- 4. Respiratory Protection (4332 citations)** Regulations require that “the employer to develop and implement a written respiratory protection program with required worksite-specific procedures and elements for required respirator use.”
- 5. Lockout/ Tagout (3659 citations)** Regulations require that “employers establish a program and utilize procedures for affixing appropriate lockout devices or tagout devices to energy isolating devices, and to otherwise disable machines or equipment to prevent unexpected energization, start up or release of stored energy in order to prevent injury to employees.”
- 6. Powered Industrial Trucks (3080 citations)** Regulations require that “the employer must ensure that each powered industrial truck operator is competent to operate a powered industrial truck safely, as demonstrated by the successful completion of training.”
- 7. Electrical: Wiring Design and Protection (2953 citations)** Regulations require that “employer shall use either ground fault circuit interrupter equipment or an assured equipment grounding conductor program as specified...”
- 8. Machine Guarding (2749 citations)** Regulations require that “one or more methods of machine guarding must be provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks.”
- 9. Ladders (2329 citations)** Regulations require that “ladders be inspected by a competent person for visible defects on a periodic basis and after any occurrence that could affect their safe use. Portable ladders with structural defects, such as, but not limited to, broken or missing rungs, cleats, or steps, broken or split rails, corroded components, or other faulty or defective components, shall either be immediately marked in a manner that I. D.'s them as defective, or be tagged with “Do Not Use” or similar language, and shall be withdrawn from service until repaired.”
- 10. Electrical Wiring Methods, Components and Equipment, General Use (2178 citations)** Regulations require that “for temporary wiring over 600v, nominal, fencing barriers or their effective means shall be provided to prevent access of other than authorized or qualified personnel. Electrical feed shall originate in a distribution center, branch circuits shall originate in a panelboard or power outlet. Receptacles shall be of the grounded type and flexible cords shall be protected.”

Conclusion: Compliance with OSHA Standards is the law; however, compliance with these standards alone will not prevent all injuries and illnesses. In fact, OSHA standards provide minimum acceptable levels of protection. In order to prevent injuries and illnesses in the workplace, it is the employer’s responsibility to provide the necessary training so that employees know what the safety requirements are and how to recognize and avoid hazards. It is then also the employee’s responsibility to learn the safety requirements and put this training to use on a daily basis, while in the workplace. Keep this information in mind and do your part to keep your workplace safe.

Work Site Review

Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: _____

Personnel Safety Violations: _____

Employee Signatures:

(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)

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Foreman/Supervisor's Signature: _____

These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.