

OSHA's top ten citations for 2024 (General Industry and Construction by volume)

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements 1926.501

6,307 Violations cited.

These citations include failure to have a fall protection plan, failure to implement the plan (you have it in writing but you don't actually do it), failure to provide proper fall protection equipment, failure to train your employees, and a big one most employers miss is failure to have a rescue plan. Calling 911 is definitely part of your rescue plan but should never be your primary response. Serious injury and death can occur in minutes as the result of suspension trauma. Falls are the #1 cause of death in the workplace.

2. Hazard Communication 1910.1200

2,888 Violations cited

These citations include failure to have a written hazardous communication program in place, failure to identify hazards in the workplace of a chemical nature, failure to train your crew on these hazards including how to properly read an SDS sheet, proper labeling and storage, proper p.p.e. available, failure to have the SDS sheets available (up to date sheets), and failure to have a spill response plan including training for that plan and the necessary supplies and materials to implement the plan.

3. Ladders 1926.1053

2,573 Violations Cited

Ladders are in use and almost every work environment you can think of. From an office building that might need a stepstool for items on a high shelf, to construction and use of various ladders to gain access and perform work. Of all the many thousands of client's workplaces I have visited in my career I can't think of one that did not have some form of a ladder. This simple tool requires periodic documented inspections, training for proper use and its limitations, and depending on the type of ladder additional things such as how they are secured or what type of ladder you can use in one environment etc. Consider having a brief ladder program for your company to streamline the process of meeting these OSHA standards. For a free ladder inspection form reach out to Support@calsafety solution.com

4. Respiratory Protection 1910.134

2,470 Violations cited

Whenever a company deem it necessary to protect your employees from Chemical fumes vapors, from accidental release, or from the buildup of dust, they must have a respiratory protection plan in place. This plan designates what type of respiratory protection they're going to use, how they're going to monitor their employees and how they're going to verify fitment of the filtering facepiece. Whether it is a NIOSH rated N95, a partial face respirator, some type of supplied air system, or any other type of a powered filtering facepiece you can't simply hand these things out. Where to start? Grab your SDS sheets and call us!

5. Lockout/Tagout 1910.147

2,443 Violations cited

Generally, when I give a talk about lockout tag out people immediately think about electricity. There are actually 10 different types of energy, and two forms of energy we are concerned with when we talk about lock-out tag-out. All employers are required to have an energy control program that identifies procedures for controlling that energy. Consider this, if I have a spring trapped in a bracket that is compressed, it is a form of potential energy. If I have a pressurized airline with a closed valve in place, it is a form of potential energy. When you start thinking about it like this you'll find that there are many more items in the workplace of concern as either potential or kinetic forms of energy that can accidentally be released. Here's a little hint when creating a lockout tag out procedure. Utilize pictures and make the form as simple as possible. OSHA recommends a two sided document as the procedure for locking out most equipment.

6. Powered Industrial Trucks 1910.178

2,248 Violations cited

So what is a powered industrial truck? Well, anything that is designed primarily to lift, Stack, Carry, push or pull loads (cargo, equipment, etc.), is powered, is used primarily in the workplace and is not designed primarily for moving dirt. Training, Inspections, and maintenance are the missing parts triggering the citations. As always, have a program. Short and simple is best.

7. Fall Protection-Training Requirements 1926.503

2,050 Violations cited

Written Plan and Training that is SITE SPECIFIC! Enough said.

8. Scaffolding 1926.451

1,873 Violations cited

Many of these violations are triggered from properly constructed and maintained scaffolding. Workers must be safeguard from falling to lower levels and workers passing under the scaffolding have to be safeguard from falling object objects. How much of a safe car do you really need? It really depends. It could be three times expected load or greater. Here are some things to consider. What is the scope of work to be done and what materials will be used? Will the work be over a sidewalk and will we have to deal with pedestrian traffic? Who is our qualified person and who is our competent person?

9. Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment-Eye and Face Protection 1926.102

1,814 Violations Cited

Giving out the proper PPE and VERIFYING FITMENT is key to a successful program. Where to start? Grab your SDS sheets and call us.

10. Machine Guarding 1910.212

1,541 Violations cited

If you're working near rotating machinery, which could be anything from a bench grinder to an industrial fan or even some small powered hand tools workers must be guarded. Nip points, pinch points, etc. Think, guarding the blade, grinding wheel, belts or gears. Workers who bring their own tools need to have them inspected for missing guards or damage prior to using them on the job. If they get hurt using their tools because of a missing guard could come back