

Navigating OSHA's Top 10 Workplace Safety Violations

## **Guidance For**

## EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS

## EH&S PROFESSIONALS

# OSHA'S TOP 10 MOST CITED STANDARDS

A Comprehensive Guide for Today's Safety Professionals

# UNDERSTANDING OSHA'S MOST FREQUENTLY CITED STANDARDS AND THEIR IMPACT ON BUSINESSES

OSHA publishes the annual list to alert employers about these commonly cited standards so they can take steps to find and fix recognized hazards addressed in these and other standards before OSHA shows up. Workers suffer preventable injuries, illnesses, and deaths related to the hazards addressed in these standards.

When OSHA finds that an employer is in violation of a safety or health standard, the agency may issue a citation. Citations can be classified as "serious," "willful," or "repeated."

Serious violations are those that create a substantial probability of death or serious physical harm. Willful violations are those that are committed with intentional disregard for the requirements of the law. Repeated violations are those that are committed for the same hazard after the employer has been previously cited for that hazard.

OSHA citations can have a significant impact on businesses. In addition to fines, citations can damage a company's reputation and lead to increased insurance premiums. Citations can also result in criminal charges in some cases.



## **COUNTING DOWN THE TOP 10 OSHA CITATIONS FOR 2023**

## POTENTIAL CONSEQUENCES OF OSHA CITATIONS FOR OEMS AND EH&S PROFESSIONALS

One of the most troubling aspects of this list is the fact that, almost without fail over the past several years, the same violations come up again and again – many of them even in the same order, listed from the most to least common. This suggests that, for all the strides being made every day in the field of safety and regulatory oversight, many of the most common challenges have yet to be conquered.



In 2022, the total cost of workplace accidents and injuries in the United States was estimated to be \$1.2 trillion. This includes the cost of medical care, lost wages, productivity losses, and property damage.



\$156,259

Per Willful or Repeated Violation (maximum)

These numbers were adjusted for the 2023 fiscal year, although may see appropriate increases with inflation in FY 2024. OSHA citations can have a number of negative consequences for OEMs and EH&S professionals, including:

## 01 Legal Costs

Employers who are cited by OSHA may also face legal costs if they contest the citation or if they are sued by injured workers.

## 02 Damage to Reputation

OSHA citations can damage a company's reputation and make it more difficult to attract and retain customers and employees.

### 03 Increased Insurance Premiums

Employers with poor safety records may be charged higher premiums for workers' compensation insurance.

### 04 Criminal Charges

In some cases, employers who violate OSHA standards may face criminal charges.

## Top Citations: #10 Machine Guarding (1910.212)

Machine guarding must comply with modern safety standards, such as ANSI B11.19, and is used to limit worker exposure to hazards per the risk assessment. Machine guards and functional safety systems can prevent serious injuries, including amputations, lacerations, and crush injuries.

There are many different risk reduction methods available for machinery. The risk assessment is used to determine the most appropriate methods and must be consistent with modern safety regulations and standards. Some common types of risk reduction methods include:

- Fixed and interlock barrier guards. These include point-of-operation guards and perimeter guards that meet specific size and opening requirements.
- Control reliable functional safety systems, including sensors (light curtains, guard switches, etc.), logic solvers (safety PLCs, safety relays, etc.), and hazardous energy control elements (safety contactors and motor drives, etc.).

All of the above must be accompanied by effective safety signs/labels, written work procedures, and training.



## TOP 5 MACHINE GUARD SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1910.212 Machinery and Machine Guarding Subpart\*

#### 1910.212(a)(1)





## **Implementing Effective Machine Guarding Programs**

Conduct a machine risk assessment (per ANSI B11.0). Depending on the stage of the machine's lifecycle, properly trained EH&S professionals can implement effective machine guarding programs by following these steps:

- Identify all machines that have point-of-operation hazards.
- Select the appropriate type of machine guarding device for each machine.
- Install machine guards in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Inspect machine guards regularly for damage or wear.
- Repair or replace damaged or worn machine guards immediately.
- Train workers on the importance of machine guarding and how to use machine guards properly.

Some of the most common violations related to machine guarding include:

- Failing to provide machine guards for machines that have point-of-operation hazards
- Using machine guards that are not properly designed, installed, or maintained
- Removing machine guards while the machine is in operation



Your risk assessment team must be properly trained in modern machine safety standards and risk assessment methods. MSS offers training to equip your team and get results!

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## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective guarding programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## Risk Assessment

Conduct a risk assessment of the machine before putting it into production to identify all hazards and solutions to avoid them.

#### Engineering Controls

Add barrier guards and functional safety (control reliable) systems to achieve zero exposure per the risk assessment.

### Administrative Controls

Add safety signs/labels per ANSI Z535.4 and safe working procedures, training, use of special tools, etc.

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with the appropriate gloves, goggles, outer clothing, or shields to reduce their exposure to remaining risks.

# Top Citations: #9 PPE - Eye & Face Protection (1926.102)

By enforcing eye protection safety measures, injuries can be reduced. In the workplace, employers should look at their operations to see which areas are most prone to eye injuries. There must be mandatory eye protection protocol, in line with the specific hazards and duties present, in every single area of the workplace; it should be routinely reviewed and revised.

There are several occupations that are considered to have a higher risk for eye injuries, including construction, carpentry, welding, manufacturing, plumbing, electrical work, and automotives, as these industries require the use of machinery and equipment that generate dust and other debris that can cause damage to the eyes. Common eye hazards include:

- Getting a metal sliver in the eye due to hammering on metal.
- Getting particles of wood, slag, cement, or drywall in the eye due to carpentry.
- · Handling chemicals that splash into the eyes.
- Sanding, grinding, or other masonry work that can create particles.
- Welding that exposes the eyes to flashes and arcs.
- · Getting wet cement in the eye, resulting in chemical burns.



# 2,074

Total Violations in 2023

## 20,000 Annual Workplace Eye Injuries



March is Workplace Eye Wellness Month, hosted by the Prevent Blindness Organization

## TOP 4 EYE & FACE PPE SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1926.102 Personal Protective and Life Saving Equipment Subpart\*

#### 1926.102(a)(1)



# Selecting the Appropriate Type of Eye and Face Protection for Specific Hazards

There are many different types of eye and face protection available, each designed to protect against different hazards. The following are some of the most common types of eye and face protection, although a combination of some of these devices may be necessary to ensure employees are safe:

- Safety glasses are designed to protect against flying debris and dust. Employers should invest in glasses that come with anti-fogging capabilities. Ideally, the glasses will have rubber or foam around the lenses to prevent the particles from reaching the eyes another way.
- Safety goggles provide more protection than safety glasses and can also protect against chemical splashes.
- Face shields provide the most protection of all and can protect against flying debris, chemical splashes, molten metal, lasers, and electrical arcs.
- Welding eye protection is essential when employees will work with intense heat.
- Full-facepiece respirators may be necessary to protect the eyes in the presence of chemicals, dust, and smoke.



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective eye & face protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with the correct type of eye or face PPE after assessing the hazards they will be exposed to.

#### Administrative Control

Employees must be trained on how to use the PPE, how to inspect and maintain it, and how to respond to eye injuries.

#### Administrative Control

Use labels and signs on and around equipment that produces flying debris or dust hazards. Spaces should have PPE entry signage.

#### Engineering Control

Conduct a formal PPE risk assessment of equipment to eliminate eye injury related hazards in the design process.

# Fall Protection - Training Requirements (1926.503)

All workers who are exposed to fall hazards require fall protection training. This includes workers who work at heights, such as construction workers, roofers, and scaffolders. It also includes workers who work in areas where there is a risk of falling objects, such as material handlers and warehouse workers.

Fall protection training should be comprehensive and up-todate. It should cover the following topics:

- Identifying fall hazards
- Assessing fall hazards
- · Selecting and using fall protection equipment properly
- · Responding to falls



Tips for Implementing Effective Fall Protection Training Programs

- Use a variety of training methods, such as lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on training.
- Make sure that training is relevant to the workers' job duties.
- Provide workers with opportunities to ask questions and practice what they have learned.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of training regularly.



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Down event in May

## TOP 5 FALL TRAINING SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1926.503 Fall Protection Subpart\*

1926.503(a)(1)



## Plan, Provide, and Train

EH&S professionals can implement effective fall prevention programs by following the **PPT** steps:

For the first P, it's critical for employers to **plan** out scenarios wherein their workers may slip, trip or fall. For instance, if you're in construction, workers may lose their balance on ladders or stumble over equipment. You can lower the chances by instituting the preparations that make these hazards apparent or less risky, such as through signage or with fall arrest systems.

Injury avoidance requires accessibility, so be sure to **provide** all the appropriate gear to get their jobs done without undue risk, such as with scaffolding or harnesses on construction sites.

Last but not least, **train**. OSHA provides an immense amount of different training materials that can ensure all your workers understand how equipment works and what red flags they should be aware of that may lead to a fall-related injury.



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective fall protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Make sure workers are trained in using lanyards, lifelines, and safety belts and know when to use them.

#### Administrative Control

Keep up to date training manuals and provide refresher safety training sessions throughout the year to address gaps in safety.

#### Administrative Control

Use labels and signs on equipment and the workplace to warn against slippery surfaces or not to use machine parts as steps.

#### Administrative Control

Redirect as much work as possible to ground level, and have completed project hoisted to higher levels by a machine when possible.

## Top Citations: #7 **Respiratory Protection (1910.134)**

Respiratory protection is the use of equipment to protect workers from inhaling hazardous airborne contaminants. Respiratory protection is required in many workplaces where workers are exposed to harmful gases, vapors, dusts, fumes, or mists.

Respiratory protection is required in situations where the airborne concentration of a hazardous substance exceeds the permissible exposure limit (PEL) or the immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) level.

The PEL is the maximum concentration of a hazardous substance in the air that a worker can be exposed to over an eight-hour workday without adverse health effects.



The IDLH is the concentration of a hazardous substance in the air that is immediately dangerous to life or health.

The following are some of the most common types of respiratory protection equipment:

- Air-purifying respirators (These are the most common)
- Powered air-purifying respirators (PAPRs)
  Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)



**Total Violations in 2023** 

## **Remember that fit** tests must be annual \*1910.134 App A



The CDC recognizes respiratory protection week every September to address knowledge gaps across industries where airborne hazards exist.

## **TOP 5 RESPIRATORY** SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1910.134 Personal Protective Equipment Subpart\*

#### 1910.134(e)(1)



## Proper Use, Maintenance, and Storage of Respiratory Protection Equipment

Respiratory protection equipment must be used, maintained, and stored properly in order to ensure its effectiveness. The following are some important tips for using, maintaining, and storing respiratory protection equipment:

- Fit testing: All workers who use respiratory protection equipment must be fit tested to ensure that the equipment fits properly and provides adequate protection.
- Inspection: Respiratory protection equipment must be inspected regularly for damage or wear.
- Cleaning and disinfection: Respiratory protection equipment must be cleaned and disinfected regularly to prevent the growth of bacteria and mold.
- Storage: Respiratory protection equipment must be stored in a cool, dry place away from direct sunlight.



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective respiratory protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Remember to provide a respirator fit test annually for workers exposed to airborne hazards.

#### Administrative Control

Before providing fit tests, employers must give employees a health screening to ensure no conditions will affect mask use.

#### Administrative Control

Use PPE signage in areas where respiratory hazards exist, clearly instructing employees on mask requirements.

#### Engineering Control

Install ventilation systems to help control or eliminate air contaminants where possible.

## Top Citations: #6 Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)

LOTO procedures are important because they prevent workers from being exposed to hazardous energy sources while servicing or maintaining machines and equipment. Hazardous energy sources can include electrical energy, mechanical energy, hydraulic energy, pneumatic energy, chemical energy, and thermal energy.

Employers must establish a procedure for workers to follow before beginning to work on electrical machinery. These steps generally consist of:

- · Going through a pre-shutdown checklist
- Shutting down the equipment
- Disconnecting the equipment from its power source (or isolating it)
- Putting a locking device on the disconnected or isolated power source; if the power source cannot be locked, placing a tagout device alerting others to the electrical hazard
- Tagging the lock with the name of the person who placed it so that no one else opens the lock
- Properly handling any potential stored power (typically by releasing or restraining)
- Verifying the equipment has been completely depowered



## 

Avoid serious injury or death.

This machine MUST be locked out in accordance with current OSHA requirements before any maintenance or service is performed.

# **2,554** Total Violations in 2023

## 120 Annual LOTO Related Fatalities



The ESFI commemorates National Electrical Safety Month every May to educate about new and constant electrical hazards.

# TOP 5 LOTO SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1910.147 General Environmental Controls Subpart\*

#### 1910.147(c)(4)



# Selecting and Using Appropriate Lockout/Tagout Devices

Lockout/tagout devices must be able to withstand the hazardous energy source that they are isolating. Common lockout/tagout devices include:

- Locks: Locks are used to isolate electrical energy sources.
- Hasps: Hasps are used to accommodate multiple locks on a single energy isolating device.
- Tags: Tags are used to warn workers that a machine or equipment is locked out or tagged out.
- Other devices: Other lockout/tagout devices may be used depending on the specific energy source being isolated.

## 10% of Electrical Fatalities are LOTO Control Failure Related

\*According to OSHA

## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective LOTO protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with AR/FR clothing to protect them from heat related risks and thermal hazards.

#### Engineering Control

Install energy isolation devices that physically prevent the transmission or release of energy, such as pad-lockable electrical disconnect switch(es) and fluid power valve(s).

#### Administrative Control

Use LOTO tags and visual warnings to remind users of the proper LOTO procedures and to warn against arc flashes or auto starts.

## Alternative Methods

Alternative methods may be acceptable, provided they are Control Reliable and meet the minor servicing exception.\*

## OSHA'S TOP SAFETY VIOLATIONS GUIDE

\* MSS can determine if the Alternative Protective Methods comply with OSHA requirements. <u>Contact MSS</u> for details.

# Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178)

Powered industrial trucks (PITs), also known as forklifts, are essential tools in many workplaces. However, they can also be dangerous if not operated safely. Employers have a responsibility to ensure that their employees are properly trained to operate PITs safely and that their workplaces are designed to minimize PIT hazards.

According to the National Institute for Occupational Health and Safety, forklift-related incidents result in 20,000 serious injuries and nearly 100 deaths in the United States every year. However, the good news is that many forklift accidents can be prevented by imposing and enforcing safety guidelines within the workplace. The following are guidelines for employers:

- Prevent Underage Forklift Driving: According to OSHA, federal law prevents anyone from operating a forklift while under the age of 18.
- Provide Adequate Forklift Training: Do not allow any employee to operate a forklift without receiving proper training and obtaining a license.
- Inspect and Maintain Equipment: Daily forklift inspection should include steering wheel, horn, brakes, lights, tires, and oil levels, as well as the forks themselves to ensure they are not cracked or bent.



## TOP 5 FORKLIFT SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1910.178 Materials Handling and Storage Subpart\*

#### 1910.178(I)(1)





## **Implementing Effective Forklift Programs**

These are forklift safety guidelines specific to forklift operators:

- Ensure Load Security: Before lifting, place the forks as far under the load as they will go. Ensure the load is balanced before lifting.
- Travel Safely: When transporting a load, keep it as low to the ground as you can. Observe all speed limits and take extra care on inclines.
- Watch Where You're Going: Travel in reverse if the load blocks your front-facing view.
- Be Mindful of Pedestrians: Whenever possible, stay out of areas frequented by pedestrians. If driving in areas where pedestrians may be present, use your horn to alert them.

PIT Design & Construction Requirements are on the Update Radar for OSHA in 2024



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective forklift protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with the appropriate hard hats, reflective vests, safety gloves, and eye protection for the materials they handle.

#### Administrative Control

Ensure that forklift operators are trained and certified to operate the equipment in a workplace.

#### Administrative Control

Use forklift directional signs and floormarkers that remind personnel of truck presence and speed limits.

#### Engineering Control

Make sure that all forklifts in operations have overhead guards in place to prevent objects from falling on top of the operator.

# Top Citations: #4 Scaffolding (1926.451)

Scaffold incidents causing injury or death to workers are often the result of either the planking or support giving way, the work slipping, the absence of fall protection, or being struck by a falling object.

When erecting scaffolding, it is important to follow the manufacturer's instructions and OSHA standards. This includes using the correct type of scaffolding for the job, assembling the scaffolding properly, and securing the scaffolding to a sturdy structure. Scaffolding must be maintained regularly to ensure that it is safe to use. This includes inspecting the scaffolding for damage, tightening all connections, and replacing any damaged components.



- Guardrails and toeboards must be installed on scaffolding to prevent falls.
- Access: Scaffolding must have safe access and exit points.
- Platform surfaces: Scaffolding platforms must be kept clean and free of debris.



Total Violations in 2023

# Moved from 5th to 4th place in 2023



Construction Safety Week, held annually in May, is an opportunity to bring awareness to scaffolding hazards.

## TOP 5 SCAFFOLDING SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1926.451 General Requirements standard\*

#### 1926.451(g)(1)



CAUTION Fall hazard. Slippery surface. Step carefully.

## **Implementing Effective Scaffolding Programs**

Scaffolding must be inspected regularly to ensure that it is safe to use. Inspections should be conducted by a qualified person, such as a competent person or a licensed engineer. Inspections should include the following:

- A visual inspection of the scaffolding to identify any signs of damage.
- A check of all connections to ensure that they are tight.
- A check of the load-bearing capacity of the scaffolding to ensure that it is not overloaded.

## **Common Violations in Scaffolding**

Some of the most common violations related to scaffolding safety include:

- Failing to erect scaffolding properly
- · Failing to maintain scaffolding regularly
- Failing to use fall protection equipment
- Overloading scaffolding
- Failing to install guardrails and toeboards on scaffolding
- Failing to inspect scaffolding regularly



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective fall protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with the appropriate safety harnesses when they are at a height of 10 feet or more.

#### Administrative Control

Make sure that scaffolding is placed in areas at a safe distance from overhead electrical wires or equipment.

#### Administrative Control

Install additional safety signage that identifies uneven surfaces, needs for wearing PPE, & addresses other concerns near scaffolding.

#### Engineering Controls

Install wind screens on higher scaffolds or guardrails where necessary in high risk scaffolding areas.

## Top Citations: #3 Ladders (1926.1053)

Despite their seemingly simple design, ladders harbor hidden dangers. In the U.S alone, roughly 30,000 workplace injuries stem from ladder mishaps each year, a sobering statistic that underscores the importance of ladder safety.

When selecting a ladder for a job, it is important to consider the following factors:

- The height and reach needed to complete the job
- The type of work being performed
- · The weight of the load being carried
- The surface conditions



The load-bearing capacity of a ladder is the maximum weight that the ladder can safely support. It is important to never exceed the load-bearing capacity of a ladder. To safely use a ladder, it is important to make sure employees follow these quick guidelines:

- Always inspect the ladder before using it for any signs of damage.
- Place the ladder on a level surface.
- Secure the ladder to prevent it from slipping.
- Face the ladder when climbing up and down.
- Maintain three points of contact with the ladder at all times.
- Do not overreach.
- Do not carry heavy loads while climbing a ladder.



3rd Year in a Row

## in 3rd Place



National Ladder Safety Month is held in March each year. Get involved by promoting various safety activities across your workplace.

## TOP 5 LADDER SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1926.1053 Stairways and Ladders Subpart\*

#### 1926.1053(b)(1)



## How to Inspect a Ladder Before Use

Ladders should always be inspected before use, especially if they're brand new to the workplace. One should always check for damage before using any ladder. This is very important for ladders that have fallen or have been dropped before using again. It is always best to conduct your inspection before you leave for the job site to ensure that no corners are cut and mitigate additional time spent.

- Begin at the bottom, making sure the feet are not broken or malfunctioning and that the slip-resistant pads are secure.
- Inspect the ladder for cracks, bends, and splits on side rails, rungs, and steps.
- Check all rung/step-to-side rail connections, as well as hardware, fittings, and accessories. Make sure both rung locks are in working order. Rungs are loose if they can be moved by hand.
- Test the rope and pulley. Look for fraying of the rope and smooth operation.
- All pivotal connections and the rung-lock should be welllubricated.
- All bolts and rivets should be secure. Never use a ladder if any bolts or rivets are missing of if the joints between the steps (or rungs) and the side rails are not tight.
- Make sure the ladder (particularly the steps and rungs) is free of foreign materials such as oil and grease.
- Make sure that there are no missing or faded identification labels on the ladders.



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective fall protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with the appropriate harness or lifeline as a last means of defense in case they are to fall.

#### Administrative Control

Create a two person ladder use system, making sure someone is at the base to keep the ladder steady while in use.

#### Administrative Control

Install additional safety signage that identifies uneven surfaces, needs for wearing PPE, & addresses other concerns near ladder use.

#### Engineering Control

Consider installing guardrails along edges or using hoists to reduce carrying risks while using ladders.

# Hazard Communication (1910.1200)

Exposure to hazardous chemicals poses another significant threat. According to OSHA, an estimated 4.8 million workers are exposed to hazardous chemicals in the United States (U.S.) each year. The Hazard Communication Standard (1910.1200) aims to protect these workers by ensuring they have access to vital information about the chemicals they handle, including labeling, safety data sheets, and comprehensive training.



Chemical hazards can cause a variety of health problems, including respiratory problems, skin irritation, cancer, and death. Exposure to hazardous chemicals can also lead to chronic health problems, such as asthma, heart disease, and neurological disorders.

Employers must maintain SDSs for all hazardous chemicals in their workplace. SDSs provide workers with detailed information about the hazards of the chemical, including:

- · The chemical's identity
- The physical and chemical properties of the chemical
- The health hazards of the chemical
- The precautions to take to protect oneself from the hazard(s)
- · The first aid measures to take in the event of exposure

3,213

Total Violations in 2023

# 2nd Year in a Row in 2nd Place



OSHA's next HCS update is coming mid 2024, and will see a 2year implementation cycle after white house approval.

## TOP 5 HAZCOM SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1910.1200 Toxic and Hazardous Substances Subpart\*

#### 1910.1200(e)(1)



## **Implementing Effective HazCom Programs**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective hazard communication programs by following these steps:

- Develop and maintain a written hazard communication program for the workplace, including lists of hazardous chemicals present.
- Label containers of chemicals in the workplace, as well as containers of chemicals being shipped to other workplaces.
- Preparation and distribution of material safety data sheets (MSDSs) to workers and downstream employers.
- Development and implementation of worker training programs regarding hazards of chemicals and protective measures.

## 9 GHS Pictograms

Health Hazard Flame Exclamation Mark Gas Cylinder Corrosion Exploding Bomb Flame Over Circle Environment Skull & Crossbones



## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective fall protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

## **PPE Control**

Provide workers with the appropriate gloves, goggles, and respirators to protect them against chemicals.

#### Administrative Control

Create a culture of safety where workers feel comfortable asking questions about hazardous chemicals and reporting hazards.

#### Administrative Control

Use GHS labels and signs in appropriate chemical hazard areas. You can also use multihazard lab door signs to warn for room entry.

### Administrative Control

Consider conducting formal manual and training audits to identify gaps in employee interactions with chemicals.

## Top Citations: #1 **Fall Protection - General Requirements (1926.501)**

Falls from height are a leading cause of work-related injuries and deaths. In the United States, falls account for over 35% of all workplace fatalities. Fall protection systems and procedures are essential for preventing falls and protecting workers from serious injury or death.



OSHA requires that fall protection be provided for workers who are working at heights of 4 feet or more in general industry, 5 feet or more in maritime, and 6 feet or more in construction. Fall protection systems can be either active or passive.

Active fall protection systems arrest a worker's fall and prevent them from hitting the ground. Examples of active fall protection systems include harnesses, lanyards, and self-retracting lifelines.

Passive fall protection systems prevent workers from falling in the first place. Examples of passive fall protection systems include guardrails, safety nets, and covers.



## TOP 5 FALL PROTECTION SECTIONS CITED

Within the 1926.501 General Requirements standard\*

#### 1926.501(b)(13)



## **Implementing Effective Fall Protection Programs**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective fall protection programs by following these steps:

- Identify all fall hazards in the workplace.
- Develop fall protection procedures that address the specific hazards identified.
- Provide training to all employees on the fall protection procedures.
- Inspect and maintain fall protection equipment regularly.
- Enforce fall protection procedures and discipline employees who fail to comply.



## PLAN

PROVIDE

## **Safety Solutions to Work Towards Prevention**

OEMs and EH&S professionals can implement effective fall protection programs by following best practice guidance and OSHA recommendations such as:

### **PPE Control**

Use fall arrest systems, such as harnesses, lanyards, and self-retracting lifelines, when working at heights.

#### Administrative Control

Use safe work practices, such as using ladders properly and avoiding working in slippery conditions.

#### Administrative Control

Warn workers of potential fall risks with compliant signs and labels around equipment and hazardous environments.

#### Engineering Control

Guard elevated work surfaces with guardrails, toeboards, and covers where possible.

# **MACHINE SAFETY SPECIALISTS -YOUR RESOURCE**



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This guide has been prepared by Machine Safety Specialists (MSS), a Clarion Safety Systems company. One call to MSS can provide clear guidance and detailed answers for your OSHA machine guarding, risk assessment, functional safety, and safety training needs.

MSS is a subsidiary of Clarion Safety Systems. Clarion Safety designs and produces product safety labels and facility safety signage to help identify hazards and mitigate risks. Clarion Safety also offers complementary services for comprehensive machine safety, compliance, and risk reduction - offered in part by our affiliated businesses, MSS and Arrow Industrial Solutions.

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Machine Safeguarding Experts

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#### **Machine Safeguarding** Integrator

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# **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

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THINK SAFETY FIRST NOTICE AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY 1941



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Manufacturers & Machine Builders

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We break down the evolution of ANSI, ISO, and OSHAaccepted safety sign designs and standards over the years as safety protocols develop.

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Manufacturers & Machine Builders

It's also important to keep in mind that there's not necessarily one correct choice to be made for safety labels. You need to look at your options – the benefits and considerations of each – to see what fits the needs at hand in order to create the best warning system possible for your product.

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