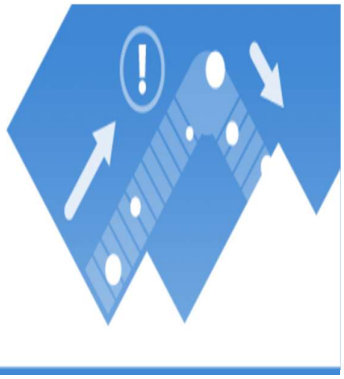
Manufacturing Risk Advisor



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OSHA Releases Top 10 Violations for 2025

OSHA recently announced its top 10 most frequently cited standards during the 2025 fiscal year using preliminary data. This information is valuable for all businesses as it helps them identify common exposures that affect their workforce. It also gives them the information they need to take proactive safety measures and plan their compliance programs.

For 2025, the top 10 most cited standards were as follows:

1. Fall protection—General requirements (1926.501): 5,914 total violations
2. Hazard communication (1910.1200): 2,546 total violations
3. Ladders (1926.1053): 2,405 total violations
4. Control of Hazardous Energy—Lockout/tagout (1910.147): 2,177 total violations
5. Respiratory protection (1910.134): 1,953 total violations
6. Fall protection—Training requirements (1926.503): 1,907 violations
7. Scaffolding (1926.451): 1,905 total violations
8. Powered industrial trucks (1910.178): 1,826 total violations
9. Personal protective and life-saving equipment—Eye and face protection (1926.102): 1,665 total violations
10. Machine guarding (1910.212): 1,239 total violations

Several standards changed positions from fiscal year 2024. For instance, "Respiratory protection" moved down from fourth to fifth, and "Scaffolding" violations moved up from eighth to seventh. "Fall protection—General requirements" remained OSHA's most frequently cited standard for the 15th consecutive fiscal year.

In manufacturing environments, hazards often stem from machinery, chemical exposure and repetitive tasks. Violations related to lockout/tagout, machine guarding and hazard communication are especially prevalent. Employers must ensure that energy sources are properly controlled during maintenance, that machines are equipped with effective guards and that employees understand the risks associated with the substances they handle.

Respiratory protection remains a critical concern in manufacturing, particularly in operations involving dust, fumes or vapors. Employers should conduct regular air monitoring, provide workers with appropriate respirators and ensure that workers undergo medical evaluations and fit testing. A robust respiratory protection program not only reduces health risks, but also demonstrates a commitment to long-term employee well-being.

To reduce violations and improve safety outcomes, manufacturing employers should invest in ongoing training, conduct routine audits and maintain clear documentation of safety procedures. Engaging employees in safety discussions and encouraging the reporting of hazards can help build a proactive safety culture that minimizes risk and supports operational efficiency.

Contact us today for more risk management information.

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