

IOSHA Cites Top Ten Most Violated Standards

Review the top ten most frequently cited OSHA standards cited by Indiana Compliance Safety and Health Officers and Construction Safety Inspectors.

In 2010, the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA) conducted more than 2,300 inspections. These inspections were a result of formal employee complaints, referrals made by media and other agencies, workplace fatalities, catastrophes and random selection inspections. Inspections were conducted in various workplaces including factories and foundries, doctor's offices, grocery and convenience stores and construction jobsites. In Indiana, IOSHA's jurisdiction includes both public and private sector workplaces.

The top ten IOSHA violations are listed below for review, with the initial penalty calculation also cited.

1. 1910.1200: Hazard Communication.

Employers are required to have a written Hazard Communication (HazCom) program, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs), provide training and label containers that contain chemicals.

310 citations

\$45,825 initial penalties

2. 1926.451: Scaffolds.

Each scaffold and scaffold component must be capable of supporting its own weight and at least four times the maximum intended load applied or transmitted to it without failure. Improperly erected scaffolds can result in the planking or support giving way, which may cause the employee to slip or fall.

170 citations

\$149,275 initial penalties

3. 1926.020: General Safety and Health.

Employers must provide all employees with a safe and healthy working environment, free of recognized hazards. This includes de-



IOSHA Top Ten Most Violated Standards, number 6, Fall Protection: Employee is not properly protected from a potential fall. (Photo submitted to IOSHA)

veloping safety and health programs, providing training and the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

125 citations

\$123,075 initial penalties

4. 1910.212: Machine Guarding. Machine safeguards must be used to prevent hands, arms or any part of a worker's body or clothing from making contact

with dangerous moving parts.

114 citations

\$153,361 initial penalties



IOSHA Top Ten Most Violated Standards, number 4, Machine Guarding: The point of operation is not appropriately guarded.

5. 1910.303: Electrical.

Electrical equipment must be free from recognized hazards likely to cause death or serious physical harm to employees. Employers must provide workers with the appropriate training on safe work practices and proper procedures for working with electrical equipment.

108 citations

\$82,266 initial penalties

IOSHA Inspections by the Numbers

2,300+ inspections were conducted by IOSHA inspectors in 2009.

3,410 citations were issued by IOSHA inspectors in 2010.

\$2.37+ million in penalties were assessed by IOSHA in 2010.

6. 1926.501: Fall Protection. Fall protection for employees must be provided at four feet in general industry, five feet in maritime and six feet in construction. However, regardless of the fall distance, fall protection must be provided when working over or on dangerous equipment and machinery.

108 citations
\$123,400 initial penalties

7. 1910.134: Respiratory Protection. Employers are required to protect employees from dangerous exposures to chemicals and other toxic vapors. These types of hazards have the potential to cause cancer, lung impairment, other diseases and even death.

147 citations
\$17,975 initial penalties



IOSHA Top Ten Most Violated Standards, number 2, Scaffolds. (Submitted Photo)

8. 1910.146: Permit Required Confined Spaces.

Before allowing employees to enter into a permit required confined space (PRCS), employers must develop and implement a written PRCS program. Programs must include annual employee training and processes for locking out machines and cutting off power sources.

92 citations
\$51,293 initial penalties



IOSHA Top Ten Most Violated Standards, number 9, Fire Protection: Fire extinguisher is nearly two years past the due date for the required annual service. (Photo taken by IOSHA Compliance Safety and Health Officer Jeanne Hedge)

9. 1926.150: Fire Protection. Employers are held responsible for developing a fire protection program throughout all phases of construction and demolition work. The employer must also provide appropriate firefighting equipment.

90 citations
\$3,155 initial penalties

10. 1926.503: Fall Protection Training. Employers are responsible for the development and implementation of fall protection training for any employee that is exposed to fall hazards.

77 citations
\$31,650 initial penalties

For information pertaining to the Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA), Hoosier worker safety and health or to learn about enforcement programs, please visit www.in.gov/dol/iosha.htm. Employers and employees may also learn about the Indiana Department of Labor's free OSHA Consultation Program, INSafe, online at www.in.gov/dol/insafe, by email at insafe@dol.in.gov or by phone at (317) 232-2688. To schedule a free on-site consultation, please visit www.in.gov/dol/insafeconsultation.