

Southern California Trade Contractors Association, Inc.

SAFETY NEWSLETTER

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January 2012

OSHA's TOP 10 VIOLATIONS of 2011



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OSHA's Top 10 for 2011

The Top 10 most frequently cited standards for 2011 were announced by OSHA at the National Safety Council's Congress and Expo in November of 2011. The list of violations includes:

1. **Fall Protection** (29 CFR 1926.501)
2. **Scaffolding** (29 CFR 1926.451)
3. **Hazard Communication** (29 CFR 1910.1200)
4. **Respiratory Protection** (29 CFR 1910.134)
5. **Lockout/Tagout** (29 CFR 1910.147)
6. **Electrical- Wiring Methods** (29 CFR 1910.305)
7. **Powered Industrial Trucks** (29 CFR 1910.178)
8. **Ladders** (29 CFR 1926.1053)
9. **Electrical- General Requirements** (29 CFR 1910.303)
10. **Machine Guarding** (29 CFR 1910.212)

Most Cited Violations for 2010

1. Scaffolding
2. Fall Protection
3. Hazard Communication
4. Respiratory Protection
5. Ladders
6. Lockout/Tagout
7. Electrical- Wiring Methods
8. Powered Industrial Trucks
9. Electrical- General
10. Machine Guarding

Number of Violations 2011

- 1. Fall Protection- 7,139**
- 2. Scaffolding- 7,069**
- 3. Hazard Communication- 6,538**
- 4. Respiratory Protection- 3,944**
- 5. Lockout/Tagout- 3,639**
- 6. Electrical- Wiring Methods- 3,584**
- 7. Powered Industrial Trucks- 3,432**
- 8. Ladders-3,244**
- 9. Electrical-Gen. Requirements- 2,863**
- 10. Machine Guarding- 2,728**

The list was very similar to 2010. Fall Protection topped the list switching places with the first place holder, Scaffolding in 2010. OSHA stated that 260 workers died in 2010 from falls, which continue to be the leading cause of death in construction.

Scaffolding came in second place. OSHA noted that incidents involving this category often result from improper placement and setup of a scaffold.

OSHA said most violations regarding Hazard Communication involved not having a written Hazard Communication program, a lack of a training program and a lack of a Material Safety Data Sheet management system.

Approximately five million employees in the U.S. are required to wear respirators. OSHA stated that employers must provide workers with proper medical evaluations and fit testing.

Not following the proper Lockout/Tagout procedures can result in unexpected energization of parts and release of hazardous energy. This standard prevents thousands of injuries and more than a hundred fatalities a year.

A worker spends 24 days away from work to recover from a LOTO injury according to OSHA.

Electrical (Wiring) violations involved working on overhead lines, circuit assemblies, cable harnesses and other equipment.

According to OSHA, there were 8,410 injuries in the U.S. in 2009 related to forklifts.

Ladders account for approximately 25 percent of falls. Hazards include improper use of side rails, unintended use of ladders and defective ladders.

Many electrical violations were the result of not following electrical installation requirements.

According to OSHA statistics, improper machine guarding can result in broken bones, finger lacerations and hand crushes. In 2009, 5,930 workers sustained amputations from machine related incidents.