



Workplace Feature

Safety Management

by
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Proper management of a safety program involves knowing if your worksite falls into an emphasis program either on the National or State level, and assessing your worksite for common hazards, including those most often cited by OSHA.

First, if an employer falls into an emphasis program, a reportable incident or inspection will draw more scrutiny and review. On the Federal level, the National Emphasis Programs (“NEP”) remain fairly consistent for this year from last year. Those NEPs include:

- amputations in manufacturing
- hexavalent chromium
- process safety management
- dust, and trenching

For Colorado, the emphasis programs for this year include:

- falls in construction
- roadway/work zone
- oil and gas
- grain handling
- workplace violence in residential facilities

In addition, the Englewood, Colorado office has added its own emphasis programs which include:

- hazards in the automotive services
- asbestos abatement
- aircraft support and maintenance
- beverage handling

Those employers working in an emphasis program should take extra precautions to manage hazards

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at their worksite as any inspection is likely to draw extra scrutiny. As part of managing hazards, employers in emphasis programs, and all employers, should be aware of OSHA's most frequently cited standards. Focusing on these standards, helps prevents both hazards and hopefully citations.

Colorado's list of most frequently cited standards includes:

- fall protection
- hazcom
- general safety under § 1926.20(b)(2)
- scaffolding
- eye and face protection
- ladder safety
- machine guarding
- respiratory protection

By understanding the hazards for your worksite, and what additional hazards frequently arise in an OSHA inspection, an employer can help ensure its worksite is safe. Additionally, knowing if you are working in an area of focus for OSHA can help you better prepare for any potential inspections.

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