

Your Company is an OSHA Inspection Target

You may be targeted by as many as 4 Inspection Programs that OSHA call National Emphasis Programs (NEPs).

Many companies in your industry are not aware that OSHA could knock on their door tomorrow and conduct an inspection that could result in \$50,000, \$60,000 or more in fines. Just click on the links to learn how much companies like yours have received in fines and penalties:

Fines over \$64,000 - https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23820

Fines over \$87,000 - https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=24522

Fines over \$96,000 - https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=24369

Fines over \$106,000 - https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=25896

Currently all OSHA offices have received a directive that outlines the criteria for inspection. This paper will outline the key areas that OSHA inspections are focusing on and how you can avoid fines and penalties.

The Problem

All OSHA inspections must be unannounced. This presents a problem because a facility operator has no time to prepare for an inspection. To avoid becoming a victim you need to know what you are required to do to be compliant. This is no easy task because there are 1000's of pages of complex and often confusing regulations that must be deciphered. Adding to the burden is the fact that most facilities do not have someone with the expertise and time to implement and maintain a compliant safety and loss control program or deal with the effect of an inspection that is part of a National Emphasis Program (NEP).

Looking over the fines and penalties from past inspections provides a great amount of use full information about the most frequently issued citations.

The most frequently issued citations include:

- Lack of written documentation for hazard assessment
- Hazard Communication program ([1910.1200 - Hazard Communication](#))
- Personal Protective equipment program ([1910 Subpart I - Personal Protective Equipment](#))
- Medical services first aid ([1910.151 - Medical services and first aid](#))
- Workplace violence program
- Means of egress ([1910 Subpart E - Means of Egress](#))
- Sexual harassment program
- Employee Training
- Proper documentation and record keeping ([1904.29 - Forms](#); [1904.7 - General recording criteria](#); & [1904.8 - Recording criteria for needlestick and sharps injuries](#))
- General safety issues such as electrical, means of egress, etc. ([1910.22 - General requirements](#))

Many citations are more than **\$3,000 for each offense** within a category and often OSHA issues multiple citations in a category. In addition, these citations are considered "serious" by OSHA. This means that if another facility inspection occurs in the future the same violation can be considered "repeat" and the dollar amount of each citation increase dramatically.

How to Avoid the Pain

A simple way to reduce your vulnerability is to conduct an assessment of how your facility measures up to the key areas outlined above. Then implement and maintain a process that keeps compliance up to the standards.

The rewards include:

- **Lower injury and illness claims**
- **Reduced insurance premiums**
- **Peace of mind**
- **Reduced exposure to severe OSHA penalties**

How ACS Helps Solve the Problem

ACS provides cost effective solutions that include:

- Facility "Mock OSHA Audits" to pinpoint areas of non-compliance
- Turnkey programs to implement and maintain compliance
- "Cloud" based programs that can be accessed by any computer, tablet, or smart phone

Many clients turn to ACS for solutions because outsourcing to us is a simple cost effective way to solve the compliance problem.