

COMPETENT PERSON

ONE PERSPECTIVE

California Industrial Hygiene Conference

Professional Development Seminar

December 12, 2018

San Diego, CA

THE
COHEN
GROUP



Tim Bormann, CIH, FAIHA

The Cohen Group₁

San Mateo, CA

COMPETENT PERSON IN CONSTRUCTION

The construction industry is dominated by small- and medium-sized employers. Over 80 percent of construction establishments have 10 or fewer employees.

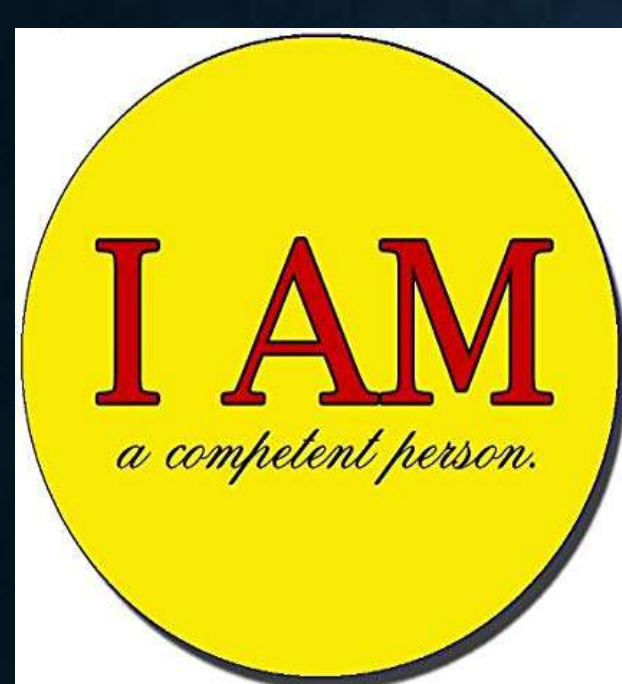
Many have neither safety nor industrial hygiene staff. An approach used by OSHA and ANSI for construction regulations and guidance is to specify that an employer designate a “competent person” for hazards involving medium to high complexity.

DEFINITIONS

~COMPETENT PERSON~

"Competent person" means one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and *who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.*

[California and Federal Definition Same – 8 CCR 1504/1926.32]



DEFINITIONS

~ QUALIFIED PERSON ~



California

“Qualified Person, Attendant or Operator”. A person designated by the employer who by reason of training, experience or instruction has demonstrated the ability to safely perform all assigned duties and, when required, is properly licensed in accordance with federal, state, or local laws and regulations.

[8CCR1504]

Federal

"Qualified" means one who, by possession of a recognized *degree, certificate, or professional standing*, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated *his ability to solve or resolve problems* relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project. [1926.32]

DEFINITIONS

~ AUTHORIZED PERSON ~

- “Authorized person” means any person authorized by the employer and required by work duties to be present in regulated areas. [1926.32]
 - Used by Cal/OSHA regarding asbestos (§1529) and lead (§1532.1) – “Authorized person” means any person authorized by the employer and required by work duties to be present in regulated areas.
 - Energy Control – authorized to perform the lockout/tagout (energy control)
 - An authorized person is simply someone approved or assigned by the employer to perform a specific duty or to be at a specific location at the jobsite.
 - Section 1510: The employer shall permit only qualified persons to operate equipment and machinery.

QUALIFIED AND AUTHORIZED PERSON

- Powder Actuated Tool (§1685)
 - Qualified Operator
 - Qualified (Authorized) Instructor
 - Tools and power loads accessible to authorized personnel
- Crane Work Area Control (§1616)
 - Train each employee assigned to work on or near the equipment (“authorized personnel”) in how to recognize struck-by and pinch/crush hazard areas posed by the rotating superstructure.
- Personnel Hoists (§1604.26)
 - Hoists shall be operated only by a competent authorized operator

COMPETENT PERSON ≠ QUALIFIED PERSON

- Competency is demonstrated not certified by completing a training course
- Competent defined in terms of capability – criteria depends of situation and environment
- Is the distinction clear when work is being done in trenches, scaffolds or roofs
- Knowledge of the trade is not knowledge of the safety and experience or tenure may not be enough
- Foreman or superintendent??
- Qualified person may have more technical expertise but not necessarily recognition of hazards or authority to correct
- Opinion – Cal/OSHA regs are often confusing between use of terms

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY ORDERS COMPETENT PERSON

- ❖ **asbestos 1529**
- ❖ **excavation 1541, 1541.1**
- ❖ **cadmium 1532(b)**
- ❖ **fall protection 1670, 1671.2**
- ❖ **bolting and riveting 1716;**
- ❖ **lift-slab construction operations 1722.1**
- ❖ **confined space 1951**
- ❖ **silica 1532.3**
- ❖ **scaffold 1637**

Some safety orders identify specific requirements for the competent person's training, knowledge, abilities, and duties.

DO I HAVE A COMPETENT PERSON?

OR

TWO WEEKS AGO I COULDN'T SPELL COMPETENT NOW I AM ONE

- OSHA regulations that incorporate competent persons vary in the detail on the skills and capabilities needed by competent persons.
- Some regulations such as the asbestos in construction standard provide specific training requirements, whereas other regulations such as trenching and fall protection are silent about training or skills
- Lack of specificity undercuts the value of the competent person concept, and leads to variation in the training developed by various safety and health professionals and training providers.



Cal/OSHA Safety & Health Training and Instruction Requirements

Referenced in Subchapter 4 and 7, Cal/OSHA T8 Regulations (August 2006)

The following is a list of the *instruction and training* requirements contained in the **Construction Safety Orders** (Subchapter 4) and the **General Industry Safety Orders** (Subchapter 7) of Title 8, Division 1, Chapter 4 (with several references contained in Chapter 3.2) of the California Code of Regulations. Also included are references to both [Competent Person](#) and [Qualified Person](#).

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information presented, users are cautioned to refer to Title 8 and the specific sections of interest. This list is a guide only and not meant to be a substitute for - or a legal interpretation of - the occupational safety and health standards.

Users may review Title 8 Regulations at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov/samples/search/query.htm>

Training Topic	T8 Section	Frequency of Training	Typical Job Classification	Cal/OSHA Publication
Accident Investigation	3203(a)(7)(F)	Initial	Supervisors/Accident Investigators	Model Program(s) IIPP: For High Hazard Employers For Non-High Hazard

Cal/OSHA

Quick Links

- ▶ [File a workplace safety complaint](#)
- ▶ [Obtain a free consultation](#)
- ▶ [Important Cal/OSHA updates](#)
- ▶ [Public records requests](#)

Cal/OSHA Branches & Units

Branches

- ▶ [Enforcement](#)
- ▶ [Consultation Services](#)

Units

QUALIFIED PERSON

FALL PROTECTION

- The qualified person is expected to have a more comprehensive knowledge of fall hazards and mitigation, including application of fall protection regulations, equipment and systems, physical sciences, engineering principles, and mandatory requirements for the fall protection equipment and systems used by the employer.

FALL PROTECTION COMPETENT PERSON

The absence of competent persons correlates to number of accidents and fatalities, especially in the hazard category of falls. OSHA leaves latitude for the practical application of how employers create competent person programs

Performance –based term, meaning simply regardless of how the employer arrives at having competent persons based on knowledge and experience, the program must be effective, it must work to protect workers



CAN THE COMPETENT PERSON DO THE FOLLOWING?

1: Identify and describe major fall hazards

- Work surfaces
- Worker activities

2: Know how to protect from fall hazards.

- Anchor systems
- Fall protection equipment

3: Recognize employer requirements to protect workers from fall hazards.

4: Authority to take corrective action



1926.503 TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

FALL PROTECTION

- The nature of fall hazards in the work area;
- The correct procedures for erecting, maintaining, disassembling, and inspecting the fall protection systems to be used;
- The use and operation of guardrail systems, personal fall arrest systems, safety net systems, warning line systems, safety monitoring systems, controlled access zones, and other protection to be used;
- The role of each employee in the safety monitoring system when this system is used;
- The limitations on the use of mechanical equipment during the performance of roofing work on low-sloped roofs;
- The correct procedures for the handling and storage of equipment and materials and the erection of overhead protection; and
- The role of employees in fall protection plans;
- The standard

ANSI/ASSE Z359.2-2017

- Minimum requirements for a comprehensive Managed Fall Protection Standard
 - Policies, duties, responsibilities, training, survey and identification of fall hazards
 - Fall protection procedures; controlling fall hazard, program implementation
- Trainers be familiar with typical falling objects, regulations, standards, and equipment used
- Customized to industry and/or employer according to needs



Z359.2-2017

COMPETENT PERSON TRAINING

- Applicable fall protection standards and regulations
- Surveying fall hazards
- All equipment and practices applicable to the scope of work
- Inspecting fall protection equipment components and systems
- Assessing fall protecting systems and components for safety
- Implementing fall protection and *rescue procedures*

- *OSHA letter of interpretation – August 31, 2017 to International Safety Equipment Association: OSHA considers that an individual that meets all the qualifications in z395.2 is a “competent person” and “qualified person”*

ANSI/ASSE Z359.2-2017

- ANSI/ASSE Z359.2 (Minimum Requirements for a Comprehensive Managed Fall Protection Program) also supports observations of performance by calling for "physical demonstrations by trainees."
- Although training formats that do not include observations of performance may provide excellent information, they fall short.

Imagine enrolling your teenager in a driver's education program where he/she is issued certification without ever getting behind the steering wheel of a car.

RESPONSIBILITIES FOR COMPETENT PERSONS (Z359-2017)

- Stopping work and taking corrective action to mitigate fall hazards
- Preparing, updating reviewing and approving fall protection procedures
- Specifying and selecting fall protection systems workers must use
- Verifying fall protection systems have been properly and installed and inspected
- Verifying training has been completed before allowing employee to work

A LOOK AT FALL PROTECTION

- OSHA regulations (in my opinioin) provide better information with respect to competent person, etc than does the California Standards
- Competent Person is specifically listed twice in Article 24 – Fall Protection

1670. Personal Fall Arrest Systems, Personal Fall Restraint Systems and Positioning Devices.

- 1670(b)(19) Each personal fall arrest system shall be inspected not less than twice annually by a **competent person** in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. The date of each inspection shall be documented.

1671.2 Controlled Access Zones and Safety Monitoring Systems.

- 1671.2()(1) The employer shall designate a competent person to monitor the safety of other employees and the employer shall ensure that the safety monitor complies with the following requirements:
- 1671.2(a)(2) The safety monitor shall be competent to recognize fall hazards

FALL PROTECTION PLAN

§1671.1

The implementation of the fall protection plan shall be under the supervision of a ***competent person***. The plan shall document the identity of the ***competent person***.

The fall protection plan shall be ***prepared by a qualified person*** and developed specifically for the site. The plan shall document the identity of the ***qualified person***.

Note: The employer need only develop a single site fall protection plan for sites where the construction operations are essentially identical.

FALL SAFETY MONITORING

1671.2(B)

- (1) The employer shall designate a competent person to monitor the safety of other employees and the employer shall ensure that the safety monitor complies with the following requirements:
 - (A) competent to recognize fall hazards;
 - (B) warn the employee when it appears that the employee is unaware of a fall hazard or is acting in an unsafe manner;
 - (C) be within visual sighting distance of the employee and shall always be in communication with the employee being monitored;
 - (D) no other responsibilities which could take the monitor's attention from the monitoring function.
- Each employee working in a controlled access zone shall be directed to comply promptly with fall hazard warnings from safety monitors.

FALL THROUGH A ROOF

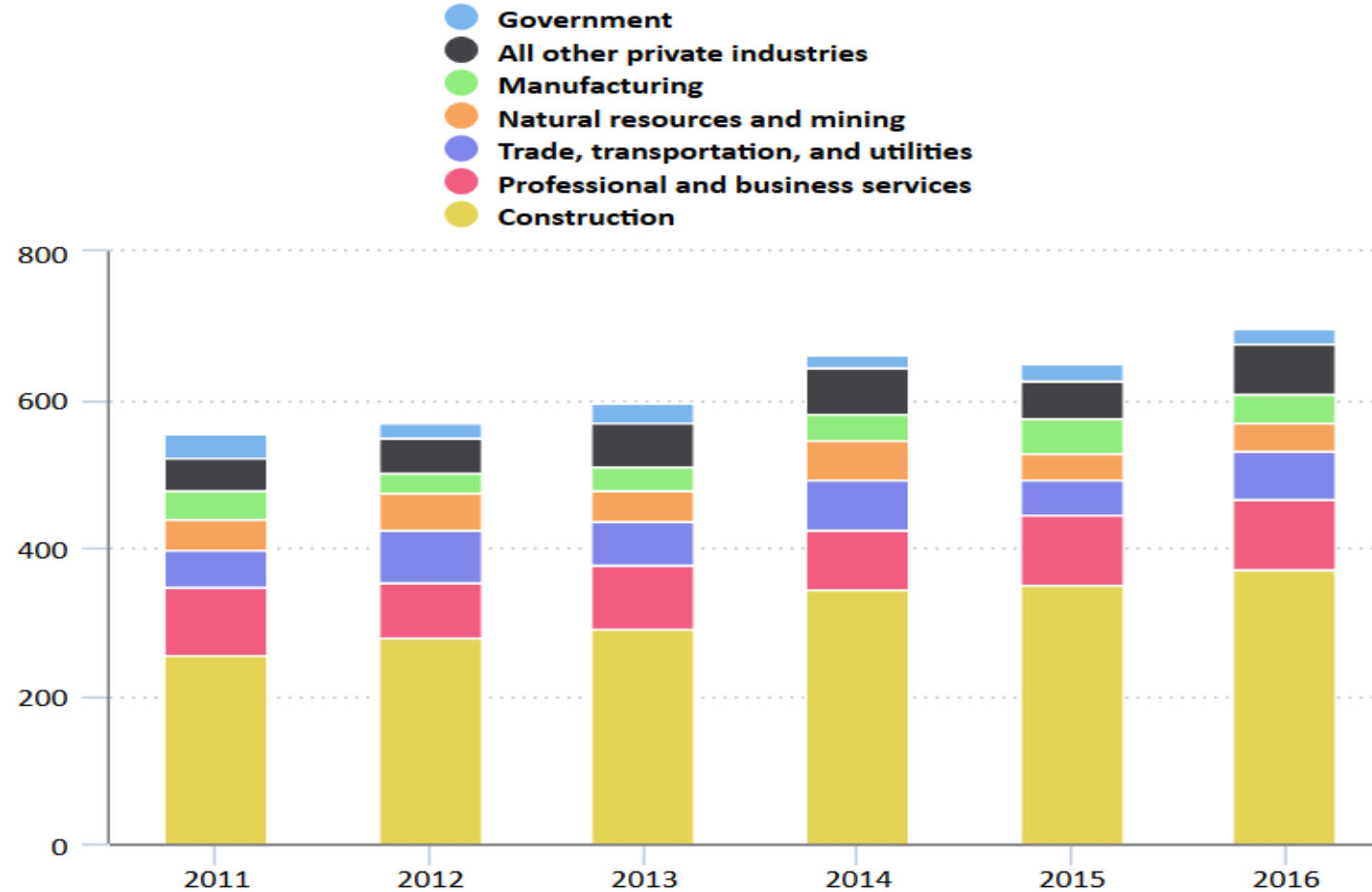
- Laborer fell through an opening in a roof during demolition – 27 feet
- Work was done at night – coal tar roof “released hazardous gases” if disturbed in heat of day
- Helpers job was to follow workers replacing plywood and pick up damaged sheets that had been removed and dispose in a chute.
- One worker removed sheet but had run out of nails to attach replacement plywood. Opening was left open and unguarded.
- Crew was not informed. Opening was covered with silver colored insulation inside the roof.
- Helper picked up the sheet of damaged plywood and headed for chute.
- Stepped on opening and ripped through insulation and fell.

RECOMMENDED MEASURES

- Prepare a site safety plan
- Competent person address potential hazards
- Equip all workers on the roof with fall protection – retractable lanyard
- Communicate hazards on an ongoing basis
- Ensure that roof openings are not left unprotected, unguarded or uncovered

BLS

Fatal work-related falls to a lower level by industry, 2011–16



Click legend items to change data display. Hover over chart to view data.
Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.



EXCAVATION

- Competent person must be capable of identifying hazards
 - Soil
 - Operations nearby
 - Type of work going on
- Qualified person would be required to design the protective supporting system, etc.

§1541

COMPETENT PERSON

- If water is controlled or prevented from accumulating by the use of water removal equipment, the water removal equipment and operations shall be monitored by a competent person to ensure proper operation.
- If excavation work interrupts the natural drainage of surface water (such as streams), diversion ditches, dikes, or other suitable means shall be used to prevent surface water from entering the excavation and to provide adequate drainage of the area adjacent to the excavation. Excavations subject to runoff from heavy rains will require an inspection by a competent person and compliance with Sections 1541 (h)(1) and (h)(2).

§1541(k) INSPECTIONS

- Daily inspections of excavations, the adjacent areas, and protective systems shall be made by a competent person for evidence of a situation that could result in possible cave-ins, indications of failure of protective systems, hazardous atmospheres, or other hazardous conditions. ***An inspection shall be conducted by the competent person prior to the start of work and as needed throughout the shift.*** Inspections shall also be made after every rain storm or other hazard increasing occurrence.
- Where the competent person finds evidence of a situation that could result in a possible cave-in, indications of failure of protective systems, hazardous atmospheres, or other hazardous conditions, exposed employees shall be removed from the hazardous area until the necessary precautions have been taken to ensure their safety.

§1541 – SUBSURFACE INSTALLATION QUALIFIED PERSON

- (C) Only *qualified persons* shall perform subsurface installation locating activities,
- Persons who complete a training program in accordance of Section 1509, Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP), that meets the minimum training guidelines and practices of the Common Ground Alliance (CGA) Best Practices, Version 3.0, published March 2006, or the standards of the National Utility Locating Contractors Association (NULCA), Standard 101: Professional Competence Standards for Locating Technicians, 2001, First Edition, which are incorporated by reference, shall be deemed qualified for the purpose of this section.

COMPETENT PERSON ≠ QUALIFIED PERSON

Competent person –

- identify hazards around them
- Authority to take action to mitigate them – delegated by employer

Qualified person –

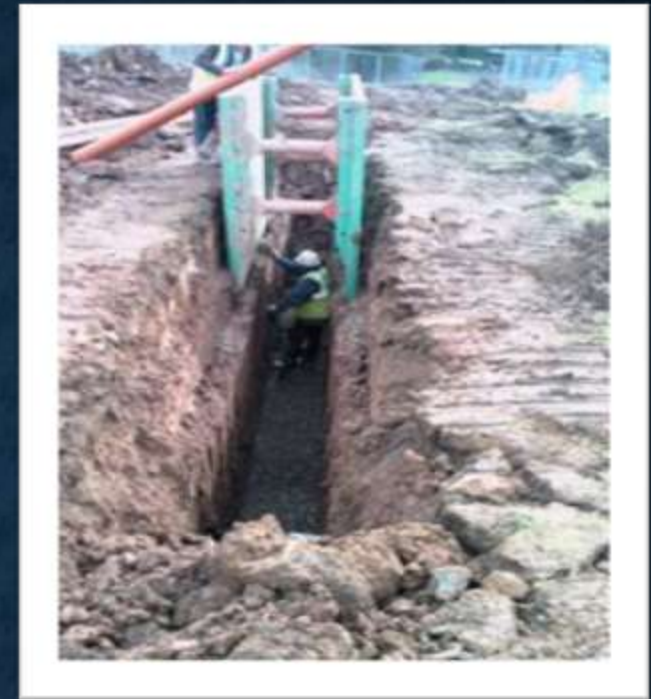
- recognized qualification such as a degree, certificate etc. They might also have considerable experience and capability to solve problems that arise, including possibly technical knowledge or interpersonal skills for a specific work place issue.

Trenching operation, a competent person able to identify hazards within the operation and solve those issues; a qualified person has the knowledge to design the protective system in the trench.

It may be possible for a single individual to be both a qualified person and competent person. A competent person may not be a qualified person just because of the different degree of knowledge and training that's required but they do need to demonstrate they are competent in the role they have been given.

NO INSPECTION BY COMPETENT PERSON - CAL/OSHA CITATION

- Employer excavated a trench about one block long. The excavation had been covered with steel plates or decking. During the inspection, they observed the opened part of the excavation. The excavation was six to seven feet deep and had vertical walls.
- Shoring, which consisted only of plywood sheets on the two opposite walls of the excavation, was not adequate to comply with section 1541.1(a)(1). Only two of the plywood sheets were supported by any cross bracing to press the plywood sheets against the walls of the excavation.
- A ladder from street level to the bottom of the excavation was in the excavation, and a shovel and an air hammer were in the bottom of the excavation. Footprints were visible in the vicinity of the tools.



CAL/OSHA CITATION

- No competent person had evaluated the potential hazards that might have been present in the excavation.
- Competent person had no knowledge that any employees had been or were expected to be in the excavation that morning.
- There was a duty to conduct a competent person inspection at that time. Employer should have become aware of the need for a competent person inspection when the protective cover was removed and the ladder was placed in the excavation.

TRENCH FATALITY

- Construction company used shoring on trench. Shoring was done properly. Employee was stuck in the head and killed by a linear beam. Trench box and shoring system were properly engineered
 - Backhoe not large enough to remove the rail
 - Crew put more slack on hood chain so that bridle slings could be attached – when tension was released from hook and sling – rail spun and safety latch broke
 - Employee in excavation during shoring removal process
 - Cited for not ensuring daily inspections
 - Failed to ensure employees were not in shields when they were being removed
 - Inadequate training
 - Competent person was not on site
 - The citations for serious violations were issued for failing to conduct daily inspections of the excavation site to identify any potential hazards and failure to implement multiple sections of the employer's injury and illness prevention program, which includes training and instruction to employees working in excavations.

TRENCH FATALITY

- Employer was digging a trench when the excavating machine hit and severed a 8-inch water line which flooded the trench drowning two employees who were in the pipe. Competent person made the employer aware of the potential presence of the water line.
- Section 1541(k)(2): Where the competent person finds evidence of a situation that could result in a possible cave-in, indications of failure of protective systems, hazardous atmospheres, or other hazardous conditions, exposed employees shall be removed from the hazardous area until the necessary precautions have been taken to ensure their safety.

ANOTHER TRENCH FATALITY/CITATION

- Serious citation was increased to willful (\$4,950 increased \$61,875)
- Trench did not have any protective system beyond where plywood was placed in the trench sides between the ladder and the previously installed pipe
- Employer argued that tree roots were adequate to prevent a cave-in
- Trench over 5 feet high
- But...water in trench, spoil piled on trench edge, previously disturbed soil, subject to vibration from nearby traffic.
- Industry practice is not defense to a violation (per Appeals Board)
- Competent person admitted that he was aware that trench was not in compliance with cave-in protection specified by safety orders
- Employer relied on him to ensure compliance

SCAFFOLDING

§1637(K)(1)

ERECTION AND DISMANTLING

- The erection and dismantling of scaffolds or falsework shall be performed under the supervision and direction of a *qualified person*.

Note: In addition to persons meeting the requirements of “*qualified persons*” as defined in Section 1504, person(s) possessing a certification of competence in scaffold erection, dismantling and use issued by trade associations, State-approved apprenticeship or training programs or other similar training programs shall be considered a “qualified person(s).”

- A *qualified person* shall determine the maximum intended working loads for scaffolds that are neither manufactured nor engineered.

OSHA

- 1926.451(f)(3) - Scaffolds and scaffold components shall be inspected for visible defects by a *competent person* before each work shift, and after any occurrence which could affect a scaffold's structural integrity.
- 1926.451(f)(7) Scaffolds shall be erected, moved, dismantled, or altered only under the supervision and direction of a *competent person qualified in scaffold erection, moving, dismantling or alteration*. Such activities shall be performed only by experienced and trained employees *selected for such work by the competent person*.
- 1926.451(g)(2) a *competent person* shall determine the feasibility and safety of providing fall protection for employees erecting or dismantling supported scaffolds. Employers are required to provide fall protection for employees erecting or dismantling supported scaffolds where the installation and use of such protection is feasible and does not create a greater hazard.

FALL FROM ELEVATION

- In this accident, the victim was using a mobile aluminum tubular-frame scaffold to access the 22-foot-high ceiling of a steel-beam frame structure. The floor was flat level concrete. The scaffold was three tiers high. Each tier measured 4 feet wide by 8 feet long by 6 feet high. The second tier was in place with the bottom section for the third tier across its top. Outriggers were being use and the casters in the lock position. ***No abnormalities in the equipment or maintenance records were noted.***

CONTINUED

- Only one witness, an electrician's helper was in the proximity of the accident. He stated that he and the victim had started work at 7 a.m. and dismantled and moved the scaffold at 8 a.m. They began to reassemble the scaffold at a new location 30 feet from its original position. When the victim began to move the two 8-foot floorboards from the second tier to the third, the helper went to retrieve another section of the scaffold from the previous location. He returned to find the victim face down on the concrete floor.

RECOMMENDED MEASURES

- Provide required personal protective equipment to employees and ensured it was used
- Provide safety training to all new employees
- Observe the working habits of new employees to ensure they were accomplishing their assigned tasks in a safe manner.
- Scaffolding shall be erected, moved, dismantled or altered only under supervision and direction of a competent person
- Employers' responsibility to determine if safe access and fall protection can be provided at each stage. It is also necessary to have a **competent person, with the appropriate knowledge and experience present to make this determination.**

FALL FROM SCAFFOLD

- Drywall installer fell from scaffold while hanging sheetrock.
- Inexperienced worker
- Working with lead worker as a 2-man crew
- Set up scaffold to height of about 7 feet about 1 foot from wall
- Lead worker locked wheels on his end and workers climbed on scaffolding to hang 12 foot pieces of sheetrock
- Installer was holding sheetrock against wall when scaffold moved backward causing him to lose his balance, fell and hit head on concrete floor



RECOMMENDED MEASURES

- Workers should double check structural stability and ensure wheels are locked before mounting the platform
- Competent person must directly supervise the erection and use of scaffolding.
- Competent person must supervise work at construction site where fall hazards are present
- Ensure workers are trained to identify, understand and control fall hazards
- Use guardrails when practicable
- Prior to each work shift competent person or person trained by competent person must inspect fall protection equipment including scaffolds.
- Scaffolding shall be erected, moved, dismantled or altered only under supervision and direction of a competent person. (OSHA)

FALL FATALITY

- A 25-year-old male roofer (the victim) was working with a roofing crew to install insulation and corrugated metal roofing panels on a warehouse roof. The victim was stretching roofing insulation near the peak of the roof when the insulation tore, causing the roofer to lose his balance. He stepped forward onto a clear fiberglass skylight in an attempt to gain his balance, causing the skylight to break. He fell approximately 30 feet to the concrete below, fatally striking his head. He was pronounced dead at the scene by the coroner.

RECOMMENDED MEASURES

- A job hazard analysis should be performed by a trained, competent person, before beginning a job.
- Workers should always use personal fall protection when exposed to a vertical drop of 7 1/2 (6 feet or more).
- All employees expected to work from heights of 7 1/2 (6) feet or more should receive training on fall protection use prior to beginning such work.
- Employers and forepersons should enforce worker safety policies and procedures that, at a minimum, adhere to federal OSHA regulations.

CADMIUM

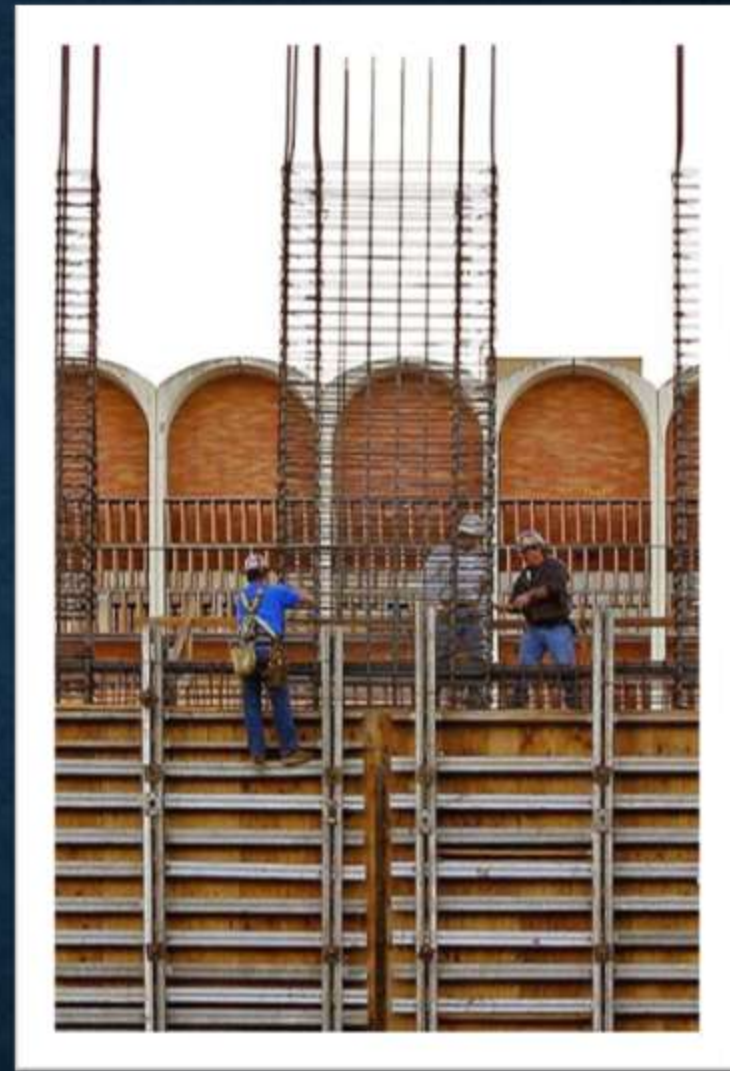
§1532

COMPETENT PERSON

- Identifying existing and potential cadmium hazards
- Proper methods of control
- Authority necessary to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate or control
 - Regulated areas
 - Monitoring
 - Appropriate PPE
 - Appropriate control measures – Engineering controls are implemented and maintained properly
 - Proper hygiene

ERECTION & CONSTRUCTION §1711.

- That formwork and falsework have been inspected and determined to meet the design requirements by a competent person
- Systems for guying, bracing, or supports shall be designed by a qualified person.
- Guys, braces, and supports shall be installed and removed as directed by a competent person.
- Stressing equipment and calibration



CONFINED SPACE COMPETENT PERSON §1952

- More detailed provisions requiring coordinated activities when there are multiple employers at the worksite. This will ensure hazards are not introduced into a confined space by workers performing tasks outside the space. An example would be a generator running near the entrance of a confined space causing a buildup of carbon monoxide within the space.
- **Requiring a competent person to evaluate the work site and identify confined spaces, including permit spaces.**
- **Requiring continuous atmospheric monitoring whenever possible.**
- Requiring continuous monitoring of engulfment hazards. For example, when workers are performing work in a storm sewer, a storm upstream from the workers could cause flash flooding. An electronic sensor or observer posted upstream from the work site could alert workers in the space at the first sign of the hazard, giving the workers time to evacuate the space safely.
- Allowing for the suspension of a permit, instead of cancellation, in the event of changes from the entry conditions list on the permit or an unexpected event requiring evacuation of the space. The space must be returned to the entry conditions listed on the permit before re-entry.

COMPETENT PERSON REQUIREMENTS

- Before it begins work at a worksite, each employer shall ensure that a **competent person identifies all confined spaces** in which one or more of the employees may enter. Directs work, and identifies each space that is a permit space, through consideration and evaluation of the elements of that space, including testing as necessary.
- When there are changes in the use or configuration of a non-permit confined space that might increase the hazards to entrants, or some indication that the initial evaluation of the space may not have been adequate, each entry employer shall have a **competent person re-evaluate** that space and, if necessary, reclassify it as a permit-required confined space.
- Space classified by an employer as a permit-required confined space may only be **reclassified as a non-permit confined space when a competent person determines that all of the applicable requirements have been met**
- *The training shall establish employee proficiency in the duties required by the standard and introduce new or revised procedures, as necessary, for compliance with the standard*

SILICA

§1532.3

- **Competent Person** means an individual who is capable of identifying existing and foreseeable respirable crystalline silica hazards in the workplace and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate or minimize them. The competent person must have the knowledge and ability necessary to fulfill the responsibilities set forth in subsection (g).

WRITTEN EXPOSURE CONTROL PLAN

- A description of the tasks in the workplace that involve exposure to respirable crystalline silica;
- A description of the engineering controls, work practices, and respiratory protection used to limit employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica for each task;
- A description of the housekeeping measures used to limit employee exposure to respirable crystalline silica; and
- A description of the procedures used to restrict access to work areas, when necessary,
- Review and evaluate the effectiveness of the written exposure control plan at least annually and update it as necessary.
- Designate a competent person to make frequent and regular inspections of job sites, materials, and equipment to implement the written exposure control plan.



American Industrial Hygiene Association

RECOMMENDED SKILLS AND CAPABILITIES FOR SILICA COMPETENT PERSONS

White Paper

**Prepared by
AIHA Construction Committee
Silica Competent Person Subgroup**

**Don Garvey, CIH, CSP, Project Leader
Tim Bormann, CIH
Matt Gillen, CIH
Carl Heinlein, CSP, OHST
Ken Jackson, CIH, CSP, CHMM
Stan Rosen, PhD, PE, CIH, CSP
Jack Schill, CIH, CSP
Kathie Lavaty, CIH, CSP**

AIHA CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDED SKILLS AND CAPABILITIES

Recommended course of study

- Introduction to competent person needed skills
- What silica is and where it is found
- Overview of hazards and common exposures
- How to determine if silica is present and exposure
- Engineering controls and respiratory use
- Oversight and quality assurance
- Knowledge of standard
- Responsibilities and procedures for corrective action

SILICA COMPETENT PERSON

- A description of the tasks that involve exposure to respirable crystalline silica.
- A description of the engineering controls, work practices and respiratory protection used to limit employee exposure to each task.
- A description of the housekeeping measures used to limit employee exposure
- A description of the procedures used to restrict access to work areas to minimize number of employees exposed to respirable silica dust and their level of exposure including exposures generated by other employers

SILICA STANDARD COMPETENT PERSON

- The employer must designate a competent person in the written exposure control plan to make *frequent* and *regular* inspections of job sites, materials and equipment to implement the written exposure. It appears, that if an employer has employees exposed to silica that is generated by another employer, they too would need to have a written exposure control plan and thus a competent person.
- A Competent Person is defined as an individual who is *capable of identifying existing and foreseeable respirable silica hazards and has authorization to take prompt corrective action to eliminate them or minimize them*. The competent person must have the knowledge and ability necessary to fulfill the responsibilities indicated in the written exposure control plan. As required in the standard all employees (including the competent person) must be trained and have knowledge and understanding of:
 - Health hazards associated with exposure to respirable silica;
 - Specific tasks that could result in exposure;
 - Specific control measures including engineering, work practices and respirators and;
 - Contents of the standard.

CONSTRUCTION JOB SITES

- Many health and safety challenges – often little health and safety knowledge on job site
- Often inconsistency or misunderstood requirements with respect to competent person
- Inadequate training and guidelines
- Competent person may not fully understand their role

THE
COHEN
GROUP



THANK YOU

Tim Bormann, CIH, FAIHA

The Cohen Group

tbormann@thecohengroup.com

650 349-9737