



COMPETENT PERSON IN CONSTRUCTION

OSHA defines a **competent person** as "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**"

A misunderstanding about the competent person on a construction site is that he/she is the person having the most knowledge of the work activity being performed or the person who has attended training. This may not always be the case. Completion of a competent person safety course alone does not necessarily establish an individual as a competent person. The course may not adequately provide comprehensive instruction to meet the knowledge requirement for a specific work activity definition.

Below is a partial listing of **OSHA standards** that require a competent person to perform specific functions:

- 1926.20(b)(1) - General safety and health provisions.
- 1926.101 – Hearing protection.
- 1926.251 – Rigging equipment for material handling.
- 1926.451 – Scaffolds - General requirements.
- 1926.452 – Scaffolds - Training requirements.
- 1926.500 – Fall protection.
- 1926.502 – Fall protection systems criteria and practices.
- 1926.503 – Training requirements.
- 1926.552 – Material hoists, personnel hoists, and elevators.
- 1926.650 – Excavation.
- 1926.651 – Specific excavation requirements.
- 1926.652 – Requirements for protective systems.
- 1926.753 – Steel erection - hoisting and rigging.
- 1926.1053 – Ladders.
- 1926.1400 – Cranes and derricks in construction.

Competent person violations were part of OSHA's top 10 most frequently cited serious violations in construction in 2019.



Company Name: _____

Project #/Name: _____

Meeting Date: _____

Meeting Location: _____

Person Conducting Meeting: _____

Items Discussed

Problem Areas or Concerns

Attendees

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_____	_____
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Comments
