

Description

Supervisors have other responsibilities in addition to safety. Supervisors may not even be directly involved in the same day-to-day safety procedures that production employees follow. As a supervisor, you might never have to perform a lockout/tagout procedure or transfer flammable solvents from a drum into a safety can, but you probably need to know what to do if an employee reports an injury.

Supervisors are also expected to participate in emergency evacuation drills and may be required to wear personal protective equipment in some areas of the facility. These are only a few examples of how supervisors can be involved in facility safety.

Supervisors can help the employer to take facility safety to a level beyond basic OSHA compliance by participating in the safety and health management program and/or safety committee. And, importantly, supervisors are the employer's eyes and ears to ensure that employees follow safety rules and that hazards are identified and addressed before they cause injuries.

This training program offers an overview of regulatory and non-regulatory safety concerns and provides a discussion of how safety and health management programs and safety committees can raise the facility's level of safety awareness.

Objectives

The objective of this training program is to provide supervisors with a general understanding of what OSHA requires and how the company meets and exceeds those requirements.

After your training program, the trainees should be able to:

- Discuss safety goals and objectives.
- Outline the requirements in some commonly applicable OSHA rules.
- Provide examples of safety concerns that are not directly covered by OSHA standards.
- Describe the safety and health management program.
- Explain how a safety committee can improve safety awareness.
- Discuss how supervisors should develop a sense of safety awareness.

Audience

Since supervisors are often responsible for ensuring that employees comply with the facility's safety rules, they will need to have a solid understanding of the facility's safety policy.

Requirements

This training program is designed to provide supervisors with an overview of how they can contribute to facility safety. OSHA does not specifically require this type of training.

While there is no one particular OSHA training standard that is specifically required for supervisors, several OSHA standards do have separate requirements for training supervisors. These requirements can be considered for future reference as they would apply to the supervisors at the facility. This training program does not directly address these OSHA training requirements.

Hazardous waste operations and emergency response. Requirements for management and supervisor training for on-site hazardous substance clean-up operations are found at 29 CFR 1910.120(e)(4).

Permit-required confined spaces. Requirements for the duties of entry supervisors are found at 1910.146(j).

Fire brigades. Training requirements at 1910.156(c)(1) state, “Fire brigade leaders and training instructors shall be provided with training and education which is more comprehensive than that provided to the general membership of the fire brigade.”

Overhead and gantry cranes. Under the requirements for handling the load at 1910.179(n)(3)(ix), the standard states, “When two or more cranes are used to lift a load, one qualified responsible person shall be in charge of the operation.” However, specific training requirements for this person are not outlined in the standard.

Crawler locomotive and truck cranes. Under the requirements for handling the load at 1910.180(h)(3)(xii), the standard states, “When two or more cranes are used to lift one load, one designated person shall be responsible for the operation.” However, specific training requirements for this person are not outlined in the standard.

Welding, cutting, and brazing - general requirements. At 1910.252(a)(1), the standard states, “For elaboration of these basic precautions and of the special precautions of paragraph (a)(2) of this section, as well as a delineation of the fire protection and prevention responsibilities of welders and cutters, their supervisors (including outside contractors) and those in management on whose property cutting and welding is to be performed, see Standard for Fire Prevention in Use of Cutting and Welding Processes, NFPA Standard 51B, 1962, which is incorporated by reference as specified in Sec. 1910.6.”

Oxygen-fuel gas welding and cutting. Under the standard’s general requirements, 1910.253(a)(4) states, “Workmen in charge of the oxygen or fuel-gas supply equipment, ... shall be instructed and judged competent by their employers for this important work before being left in charge.”

Power transmission - overhead lines. Requirements for live-line bare-hand work at 1910.269(q)(3) state that, “All work shall be personally supervised by a person trained and qualified to perform live-line bare-hand work.”