

Heat Illness #2 in Top 25 Most Cited

Alleged violations of California's heat illness prevention standard became the second-leading Title 8 regulation cited by the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) in 2008.

Cited violations of General Industry Safety Orders (GISO) §3395 jumped 85% last year, and the percentage of violations classified as serious skyrocketed 105% over 2007. In 2007, heat illness violations were the fifth-most cited by DOSH; last year, they were second only to the Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP) standard, GISO §3203, which traditionally occupies the top spot in Cal/OSHA's top 25.

The Division cited employers for 1,878 alleged §3203 violations, a 10% rise over 2007. The number classified as serious was about the same as 2007, at 84 such violations, about a 4% rate.

The other IIPP standard, Construction Safety Orders §1509, saw a significant drop from 2007 — about 15%, to 980 alleged violations, and a sharp drop in the percentage classified as serious, which dropped 34%, to 14 violations.

Meanwhile, due to DOSH's concerted effort to enforce §3395, the Division cited employers, primarily in agriculture and construction, for 1,138 alleged heat illness violations, up from 618 in 2007. That year, DOSH classified 97 heat illness violations as serious, and 198 in 2008. The serious rate last year was just over 17%.

Another Cal/OSHA regulation that largely affects agriculture, the field sanitation standard, GISO §3457, also saw a sharp rise in citations — 78% — from 180 to 320, possibly due to the increased attention DOSH is paying to the industry. In 2007, §3457 was the 25th-most cited Title 8 standard and the twelfth last year.

The lockout/tagout standard, GISO §3314, saw a 26% rise in alleged violations cited, and 13% rise in serious allegations. And the hazard communication standard, §5194, saw a 17% increase, to 757. Serious allegations remained the same at 13.

There were only two regulations on the 2008 list that did not appear on the 2007 list, including the process safety management standard, GISO §5189, and the standard on protections for abrasive wheels, GISO §3577.

Some of the most-cited standards in 2007 showed sharp drop-offs in 2008, although they still made the top 25:

- LVESO §2340.23, Guarding Openings in Electrical Boxes: 195 fewer alleged violations (-38%) and 61% fewer serious allegations.
- CSO §1512, Construction: Emergency Medical Services: 84 fewer violations (-33%) and no serious allegations (from two in 2007).
- CSO §1644, Metal Scaffolds: 77 fewer violations (-31%) and 71% fewer serious allegations.
- CSO §1529, Asbestos: 50 fewer allegations (-24%) and 49% fewer serious allegations.
- GISO §3650, Industrial Trucks, General Requirements: 44 fewer allegations (-20%) and 34% fewer serious allegations.

25 Most Frequently Cited Title 8 Standards — 2008				
Standard	Description	Total Violations	Serious Violations	% Serious
GISO §3203	Injury & Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)	2,049	84	4.1
GISO §3395	Heat Illness Prevention	1,138	198	17.4
CSO §1509	Construction IIPP	980	14	1.4
GISO §5194	Hazard Communication	757	13	1.7
GISO §3314	Clean, Repair, Service, Adjust Prime Movers, Machinery & Equipment	674	222	32.9
GISO §6151	Portable Fire Extinguishers	618	2	0.3
DOSH §342	Reporting Work Fatality or Serious Injury	526	0	0
DOSH §461	Permits to Operate Air Tanks	441	1	0.2
GISO §5144	Respiratory Protection Equipment	417	7	1.7
LVESO §2340.16	Work Space About Electrical Equipment	406	6	1.5
LVESO §2340.23	Guarding Openings in Electrical Boxes	324	69	21.3
GISO §3457	Field Sanitation	320	4	1.2
GISO §3668	Powered Industry Truck Operator Training	263	13	4.9
GISO §4650	Compress Gas and Air Cylinders	242	38	15.7
LVESO §2500.08	Flexible Electrical Cords and Cables: Uses Not Permitted	242	1	0.4
GISO §5162	Emergency Eyewash	226	69	30.5
GISO §5189	Process Safety Management of Acutely Hazardous Substances	220	78	35.4
LVESO §2340.22	Equipment Identification in Electrical Installations	213	35	16.4
GISO §3328	Safe Practices, Personal Protection: Machinery & Equipment	200	58	29
GISO §4070	Belt and Pulley Drive, Guarding	191	150	78.5
CSO §1512	Construction: Emergency Medical Services	177	0	0
CSO §1644	Metal Scaffolds	175	99	56.6
GISO §3650	Industrial Trucks: General Requirements	175	40	22.8
CSO §1529	Asbestos	162	41	25.3
GISO §3577	Use, Care and Protection of Abrasive Wheels: Protection Devices	157	59	37.6

Source: DOSH Budget and Program Office