

Competent Person Awareness Syllabus

Time: 8 hours

Recommended Class Size: 10-15

Prerequisites: None

Course Description

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 correct measures to eliminate them.” A Competent Person, by either training or experience, is knowledgeable in applicable standards, adept at identifying workplace hazards and has the authority to correct them. This eight-hour awareness course addresses specific OSHA standards and how to identify many different hazards that may occur on the jobsite. This course will help add to existing knowledge to potentially lead the participant to earn a “Competent Person” designation.

Goals/Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

1. Define the responsibilities of a Competent Person
2. Use the Code of Federal Regulations to look up Subpart P
3. Test for a hazardous atmosphere
4. Describe two types of Protective Systems for Excavations
5. Identify different soil types
6. Explain the difference between “Sloping” and “Benching”
7. List OSHA requirements for access and egress from excavations

Standards

OSHA 29 CFR 1926 Subpart P

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| • 1926.650 | Excavations: Scope, Application, and Definitions |
| • 1926.651 | Specific Excavation Requirements |
| • 1926.652 | Requirements for Protective Systems |
| • 1926 Subpart P App A | Soil Classification |
| • 1926 Subpart P App B | Sloping and Benching |

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- 1926 Subpart P App C Timber Shoring for Trenches
- 1926 Subpart P App D Aluminum Hydraulic Shoring for Trenches
- 1926 Subpart P App E Alternatives for Timber Shoring
- 1926 Subpart P App F Selection of Protective Systems

Classroom Rules and Procedures

- All classes begin at 6:30 am and end at 3:00 pm
- Upon entering classroom, all participants must sign in and be seated by 6:30 am
- Class will consist of a combination of lecture, video, demonstration, coached group exercises, individual exercises, and assessment.
- Students are required to report to class ready to work and maintain the provided PPE

Textbooks/Readings/Materials

- Competent Person Awareness Student Handout Packet
- Competent Person Awareness Exit Exam
- LIUNA: Trench and Excavation Safety IG/PG
- LIUNA: Utility Locating Programs IG/PG
- Book: *Safety in Trenches*
- Dig Alert booklet
- CFR 1926 Subpart P

Tools/Equipment/Other Materials

- Flip Chart
- DRI (Direct Reading Instrument)
- Pocket Penetrometer
- Samples of Type “A”, “B” and “C” Soil
- Dig Alert DVD
- Competent Person Awareness Power Point

Personal Protective Equipment

- All participants are to report to class ready to work with boots, gloves, safety glasses and hardhats. Although this is primarily a classroom-based course, participants must demonstrate a knowledge of proper jobsite PPE.

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Course Requirements

To receive credit for the course, participants must:

- Be present for full eight hours
- Participate in all classroom exercises
- Pass a written exam

Course Policies

- Participants must be on-time and ready to work.
- Participants must return from breaks on-time.
- Participants must participate in each exercise and assignment
- Participants who are on “light duty” are not allowed to take this course due to the physically demanding requirements.

Assessment and Grading

Participants will be assessed on the following:

- All written exams must be passed with a score of 80% or above.
- All hands-on exercises are graded on performance and participation. They are pass/fail and must be passed with a score of 80% or above.

Safety

Failure to maintain and use PPE may result in dismissal from the course.