MIIA Risk Management Training

Workplace Safety

Competent Person: Excavation & Trenching

OSHA requires a competent person to perform soil analyses and determine the protective system to be used in excavations. Daily inspections are also required. Inspection personnel must be trained in the OSHA regulations. This seminar will present key trenching/excavation topics: soil analysis, protective systems (sloping, shoring, shielding), hazardous atmospheres, excavation site safety, and hazard recognition.

Target audience: Managers and supervisors, working foremen/crew leaders and field personnel including equipment operators and other front line staff.

Competent person: 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.

This class provides knowledge on trenching and excavation but does not qualify individuals as a competent person. To be a competent person the dept/ management team must designate a knowledgeable individual and provide them with the authority/ responsibility to oversee and take action at a work site.

Agenda

8:00-9:00 AM

- Definitions
- Surface Encumbrances
- Underground Installations

DATE & TIME

Monday
November 17, 2025
8:00 A - 3:00 P
Registration/breakfast 7:30
light lunch provided

LOCATION

Plymouth Town Hall
26 Court St, Plymouth, MA

REGISTER HERE

PRESENTER

New England Water Works Association

Presenter Bios.

David Boone has been a member of the New England Water Works Association (NEWWA) faculty for the past eight years and also serves on the University of Texas, Arlington Faculty. He has extensive experience in all facets of safety and heavy equipment operator training and is a veteran of the U.S. Navy Seabees.

David holds a wide range of professional licenses and certifications including OSHA Safety, Health, and Environmental Professional (SHEP). He also has extensive experience in training public sector professionals and extensive work experience in the construction industry.

Ted Kenney, Education Advisor/Special Projects Manager of the New England Water Works Association, will also assist in the training.

- Access & Egress
- Exposure to Falling Loads
- Warning System for Mobile Equipment

9:00-9:15 AM- Break

9:15-10:00 AM

- Hazardous Atmospheres
- Protection from Hazards Associated With Water Accumulation
- Stability of Adjacent Structures
- Protection of Employees from Loose Rock or Soil Inspections
- Fall Protection

10:00-10:15 AM- Break

10:15-11:30 AM

- Requirements for Protective Systems
- Protection of Employees in Excavations
- Design of Sloping & Benching Systems
- Design of Support Systems, Shelf Systems & Other Protective Systems
- Materials & Equipment
- Installation & Removal of Support Systems

11:30-12:30 PM Lunch

12:30-1:30 PM

- Sloping & Benching Systems
- Shield Systems

1:30-1:45 PM-Break

1:45-3:00 PM

- Appendix A- Soil Classification
- Appendix B-Sloping & Benching
- Appendix C- Timber Shoring For Trenches
- Appendix D- Aluminum Hydraulic Shoring For Trenches
- Appendix E-Alternatives to Timber Shoring
- Appendix F- Selection of Protective Systems
- Policies & Procedures
- Summary/Question & Answer
- Written Assessment
- Course Evaluation/Adjourn

Reward Credits This training qualifies the MIIA member for 1% MIIA Rewards credit under the Workers Compensation category.

Accommodations Please contact Mary Ann Marino at 781-223-1870 at least 48 hours in advance.

Disclaimer: The material contained herein is intended for general informational purposes only. It is not intended as legal advice and should not be construed as such. Any inquiries concerning Massachusetts law should be directed to a city solicitor, town counsel or other licensed attorney.

MIIA Risk Management

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