Workplace Safety

November 1, 2025

Upcoming MIIA Competent Person Training

November 17, Plymouth - Click here to register
November 19, Chelmsford - Click here to register

Massachusetts Workplace Safety and Health Program (WSHP)

MIIA Risk Management provides our members with training and consultation to assist with the prevention of workplace accidents, compliance with OSHA requirements, and the creation of a culture of safety and health. One critical and mandatory component is the establishment of a "Competent Person" as defined by OSHA. Below is a high high-level introduction to the concept and a listing of core subject areas requiring a "Competent Person". Each core subject area requires an in-depth review of the specific requirements applicable to that specific job function.

Do You Have Competent People in Your Workplace?

Not only are your supervisors responsible for the safety of the workers they supervise, you may also need a "competent person" to ensure their safety. What is a competent person and when is it required?



Competent Person is:

1. 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**
2. who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them"

Reference: 29 CFR 1926.32(f)

Subject Areas Requiring a Competent Person

- **Hoists and elevators**
- **Fall prevention and protection**
- **Ladders**
- **Confined Spaces**
- Worksite, materials, and equipment inspection
- Hearing protection devices
- Rigging and material handling equipment inspection
- Welding, cutting, and heating with preservative coatings present
- Electrical wiring design and protection
- Work on scaffolds
- Trenching and Excavations
- Specific concrete work
- Steel erection
- Demolition
- Blasting and explosives
- Underground work- air monitoring
- Asbestos
- Cadmium
- Lead
- Silica
- Cranes

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