



## Compliance Brief

### OSHA Citations and Penalties by the Numbers

Depending on the results of your OSHA inspection, an OSHA Area Director can issue one or more of the following citations and propose the associated penalties against your facility:

- Other than serious violation. A violation that has a direct relationship to job safety and health but probably would not cause death or serious physical harm. Penalty: up to \$7,000.
- Serious violation. A violation where there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result, and the employer knew, or should have known, of the hazard. Penalty: up to \$7,000.
- Imminent danger situations. Cited and penalized as serious violations.
- Willful violation. A violation that the employer intentionally and knowingly commits. The employer either knows that the operation constitutes a violation or is aware that a hazardous condition exists and makes no reasonable effort to eliminate it. Penalty range: \$5,000 - \$70,000.
- Repeated violation. A violation of any standard, regulation, rule, or order where, upon re-inspection, another violation of the same previously cited section is found. Fines: up to \$70,000.
- Failure to Abate. Failure to correct any violations may bring civil penalties for every day the violation continues beyond the prescribed abatement date. Penalty: up to \$7,000 a day.
- Falsifying records, reports, or applications. Penalty: fine of \$10,000 and/or six months in jail upon conviction.
- Assaulting a compliance officer or otherwise resisting, opposing, intimidating, or interfering with a compliance officer in the performance of his or her duties (a criminal offense). Penalty: fine of up to \$5,000 and/or three years in jail.
- Conviction of a willful violation that has resulted in the death of an employee. Penalty: individual fines of up to \$250,000 and/or six months in jail; corporate fines of up to \$500,000.

*Excerpted from **The Facility Manager's Guide to Environmental Health and Safety** by Brian J. Gallant, ISBN: 0-86587-187-6 (978-0-86587-187-8). To order this book, or to view a complete list of available compliance and management resources—including all 50 Titles of the Code of Federal Regulations—call our customer service center or visit us online.*