Common Cited Standards Found During Excavation Work

1. 1926.652(a)(1) Employees in excavations not protected from cave-ins.

2. 1926.651(c)(2) No means of egress located in trench excavations.

3. 1926.651(k)(1) Inspections of the excavations not conducted daily by a competent person prior to the start of work and as needed throughout the shift.

4. 1926.651(J)(2) Employees not protected from spoil pile/excavated material from falling or rolling into the excavation.

5. 1926.651(k)(2) Where the competent person found evidence of a hazard, exposed employees were not removed from the hazardous areas until the necessary precautions were taken to ensure their safety.

6. 1926.100(a) Employees exposed to head injuries were not wearing protected helmets (Hard Hats).

7. 1926.21(b)(2) Employees not instructed in the recognition and avoidance of unsafe conditions and the regulations applicable to their work environment to control or eliminate any hazards.

8. 1926.602(a)(9) All bidirectional machines were not equipped with a horn distinguishable from the surrounding noise level. Earthmoving and compacting equipment with an obstructed view to the rear were operated in reverse without the use of a reverse signal alarm or the use of an employee signaling it was safe to do so.

9. 1926.651(b)(4) While the excavation was open, underground installations were not protected, supported or removed as necessary to safeguard employees.

10. 1926.652(g) Shield systems not properly placed in the excavations.