peoplesafe®

RF health and safety training

Peoplesafe® 5.0—Frequently Asked Questions

What is RF health and safety training?

RF health and safety training focuses on radio frequency (RF) energy—how RF works, the health risks of RF energy exposure, the federally mandated limits for human exposure to RF, and steps for protecting yourself to minimize possible injury if you're on the job site and for protecting the general public from accidental exposure.

I'm a worker or contractor who comes in contact with transmitting antennas on the job. Why do I need RF safety training?

- **Exposure to radio frequency (RF) emissions can cause serious health problems.** Problems serious enough that OSHA and the FCC have adopted standards designed to protect both the general public and workers by minimizing possible health risks. You should be aware of these risks and know how to avoid potentially dangerous situations on the job site.
- **Workers that spend time on job sites around transmitting antennas need proper training so they have the knowledge and skills to operate safely.** There are two sets of standards for maximum permissible exposure to RF emissions according to the FCC and OSHA: one for the general public (untrained persons) and one for occupational (people training in RF health and safety measures). With proper training occupational people can work in RF environments considered off-limits for the general public.

When do I need RF safety training?

You should be aware of the health risks associated with exposure to RF emissions before you set foot at a rooftop or tower site where transmitting antennas are present so you know how to avoid possible injury.

I have employees who come in contact with transmitting antennas as part of their job. Why do my employees need RF safety training?

- **Exposure to radio frequency (RF) emissions can cause serious health problems.** Problems serious enough that OSHA and the FCC have adopted standards designed to protect both the general public and workers by minimizing possible health risks. Your employees should be aware of these risks and know how to avoid potentially dangerous situations on the job site.
- **Workers that spend time on job sites around transmitting antennas need proper training so they have the knowledge and skills to operate safely.** There are two sets of standards for maximum permissible exposure to RF emissions according to the FCC and OSHA: one for the general public (untrained persons) and one for occupational (people training in RF health and safety measures). With proper training occupational people can work in RF environments considered off-limits for the general public.
- **Failure to provide appropriate RF health and safety training to workers who may operate in RF environments as part of their job leaves companies vulnerable to fines and even lawsuits in the event someone gets hurt.** Knowledge is safety! Protect your company and your employees with convenient, quality online RF safety training from the RF compliance experts at Sitesafe.

I own or manage a rooftop with transmitting antennas on it. Why do I need to be aware of RF safety issues? Do my building engineers and contractors need RF safety training?

Increasingly, office building owners and managers are signing new license agreements allowing telecom companies to put antennas, cell phone towers, microwave dishes, etc., on their roofs. This means revenue for the building owner, of course, which is desirable. But transmitting antennas can cause some risks to you, your employees, and in some cases your tenants which you should be aware of, and RF safety training provides that information.

Yes, your engineers and contracts should be trained in RF safety—and here's why:

- **Exposure to radio frequency (RF) emissions can cause serious health problems.** Problems serious enough that OSHA and the FCC have adopted standards designed to protect both the general public and workers by minimizing possible health risks. Your employees should be aware of these risks and know how to avoid potentially dangerous situations on the job site. The general public should be protected from unnecessary exposure to RF emissions as well. You should know if your rooftop currently is compliant with FCC and OSHA standards.
- **Workers that spend time on job sites around transmitting antennas need proper training so they have the knowledge and skills to operate safely.** This includes building engineers, roofing and HVAC contractors, window washers, painters—anyone who might enter an area where there are transmitting antennas in close proximity. There are two sets of standards for maximum permissible exposure to RF emissions according to the FCC and OSHA: one for the general public (untrained persons) and one for occupational (people training in RF health and safety measures). With proper training occupational people can work in RF environments considered off-limits for the general public.
- **Failure to provide appropriate RF health and safety training to workers who may operate in RF environments as part of their job or to safeguard areas accessible to the general public leaves companies vulnerable to fines and even lawsuits in the event someone gets hurt.** Knowledge is safety! Protect your company and your employees with convenient, quality online RF safety training from the RF compliance experts at Sitesafe.

If I provide OSHA training for my employees, doesn't that cover RF safety? Why do I need training specific to RF health issues?

Most OSHA training touches very briefly on the specifics of RF safety because, as OSHA admits, their current regulations provide little guidance specific to RF and require updating. For employees who work in the wireless industry or anyone who comes in contact with transmitting antennas on a regular basis, RF safety is a much more pertinent and pressing topic. Peoplesafe® provides that information in detail and fills in what's missing from OSHA currently.

Why choose Peoplesafe® for my RF safety training?

- **Compare apples to apples.** We're confident a side-by-side comparison of Peoplesafe® with any of our competitors' RF safety training (even one you're using now) will show that Peoplesafe® covers more information in a more engaging and interactive format. We did a comparison of the number of RF safety topics covered by five of our competitors—and Peoplesafe® covered the most topics by far. It's more informative and a better experience for your employees—they'll retain more of what they learn for use on the job, and that's a bonus for you.
- **More than just RF safety information.** Peoplesafe® is not just RF safety; it provides a great introduction to wireless for employees new to the industry (basics of RF, antennas, antenna types), RF health and safe training, an outline of regulatory requirements re: RF safety (both FCC and OSHA rules), and covers practical principles for making sites compliant by design. You get more training for your dollars.
- **Practical information employees can really use.** Peoplesafe® doesn't just deal with principles of RF safety. We took what we know about RF safety and combined it with real-world examples and situations. The rooftop photos in Peoplesafe® are from actual sites we have visited—real situations that illustrate what not to do as well as what to do. Visual demonstrations on proper use of protective equipment and recommended RF site visit procedures are also provided. After completing Peoplesafe®, students can enter sites where antennas are present with confidence that they know what to look for and what steps to take to protect themselves and others.
- **Quality testing.** Peoplesafe®'s tests are generated randomly from a pool of test questions closely tied to the training material. Each student gets a different set of questions; and if the student fails the exam and retakes it, their second test is different from the first. Students can review their answers and if they answer incorrectly can find out the correct answer so they learn from their mistakes. When a student passes the test, they truly understand and have retained the course information; the testing process has substance.
- **First-class quality training**. Sitesafe worked with Element K, a company specializing in e-learning, to revamp the course structure, content, and presentation platform. Peoplesafe® is now compliant with industry e-learning standards (SCORM). We're working toward getting the course accepted and certified for Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and Continuing Professional Education (CPE) credits by several professional organizations so that students may be able to count the course toward required coursework to complete certification programs or maintain licenses. Sitesafe' business **is** RF compliance—that's all we do and it's a subject on which we're experts.

If OSHA or the FCC should have reason to audit your employee training plan and programs, are you confident a review of the RF safety training you currently use would be a convincing argument in support of your company's good faith efforts to meet and/or exceed the mandated level and type of training necessary to safeguard your workforce? With Peoplesafe®, you can be.