

## 5 CHALLENGES COMPANIES FACE WHEN OUT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THEIR DOSIMETRY PROGRAM

by Radiation Detection Company

Maintaining a dosimetry program is critical for all businesses that use radiation in their operations. A dosimetry program helps to ensure that occupational dose levels are kept within safe limits and helps to protect employees from the potential health risks associated with radiation exposure. It's important to ensure that your dosimetry program is reliable, accurate and employees are properly trained in its use.

Some things that can cause companies to fall out of compliance with their dosimetry program is missing their dosimetry exchange periods, employees losing their personal dosimeters or vendors unable to supply the dosimeters.

### Challenge #1

Fined for non-compliance

If you don't comply with radiation dosimetry monitoring requirements, you could face several fines from regulatory agencies. Non-compliance can range from not having up-to-date employee occupational dose records to not following the dosimetry program defined in your Radiation Protection Plan.

### Challenge #2

Can't hire/onboard new staff if you can't obtain an x-ray badge

Dosimeters are required to measure the amount of radiation that an employee is exposed to. Without dosimeters, you can't track employee radiation dose levels and you won't be able to ensure that they are kept within safe levels or don't exceed dose limits. Employees working around radiation won't be able to start work without a dosimeter which can cause delays in your operations and lead to a loss of productivity.

### Challenge #3

Unknowingly risk the health of your staff to ionizing radiation

If you don't have dosimeters, you won't be able to monitor employee radiation dose levels. This can lead to

unassessed health risks for employees.

It's important to ensure that your employees receive effective doses that are below occupational exposure limits determined by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). By maintaining a dosimetry program that meets all applicable requirements and maintaining doses as-low-as-reasonably-achievable (ALARA).

### Challenge #4

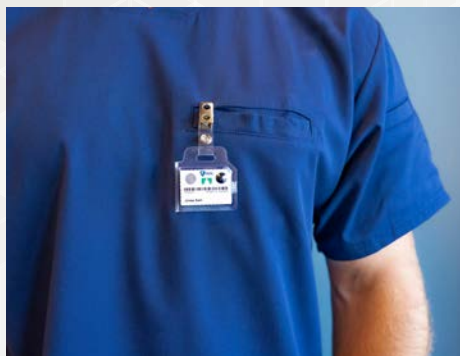
Open your company up to corporate liability

If you don't have a dosimetry program in place, or if your dosimetry program is not up to date, you could be held liable for any injuries that occur due to an employee occupational dose rate above the allowable limit. This can lead to several expensive legal problems and can damage the reputation of your company. It's important to maintain quality assurance that your dosimetry program is up to date and that it meets all applicable requirements.

### Challenge #5

Missing protocols can lead to decreased morale

When radiation dosimetry standards are not met, employees may feel that their safety isn't a priority for the company. This can lead to a breakdown of trust between employees and management which can cause a decline in employee morale. It's important to ensure that radiation safety is a top priority for



your company and that employees

are properly trained in radiation safety procedures.

### 4 Tips to Maintain a Compliant Dosimetry Program

**Tip 1** - Use a badge board system to track dosimeters: By using a radiation badge board to help store and organize badges daily, you can save money and reduce the headache of yet another lost badge.

**Tip 2** - Keep a spare dosimeter for new employees: This will save you from having to pay rush fees when someone is hired and needs their badge right away.

**Tip 3** - Appoint a Radiation Safety Officer: Appointing a Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) is a great way to ensure that your dosimetry program is up to date and compliant with all applicable regulations. The RSO can be responsible for maintaining the dosimetry program, training employees in radiation procedures, and ensuring that all equipment is properly maintained and calibrated.

**Tip 4** - Maintain a reliable dosimetry vendor: When looking for a dosimetry provider, it's important to find one that can offer you a reliable exchange program. This way, you can be sure that you'll always have the badges you need and that they'll be properly calibrated.

By following these tips, you can ensure that your company is in compliance with dosimetry standards and that your employees are protected from the potential health risks associated with radiation exposure.



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