

Este documento es muy importante. Si ud. No habla inglés,
busque un traductor o llame al (915) 534-6251.

U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration
4849 North Mesa Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912
Phone: (915) 534-6251 Fax: (915) 534-6259



July 11, 2024

Dear Employer,

On 01 / 16 / 2024, an OSHA compliance officer met with you or your representative as part of an inspection at 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821. This letter includes the citations for the violations that were found (see summary below). Please choose one of the three options from the box to the right and complete the associated steps found on the following page **within 15 working days**. Please call us if you have any questions about the enclosed citation and/or penalties; we are here to help you choose the best option to resolve your citation as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Diego Alvarado Jr., Area Director

Your Citation Summary
Kyoei Steel, LTD
Inspection Number: 1721214

Total Amount Due: \$218,933.00
Payment Due Date: 15 working days
after receipt of
this letter

You must correct each violation by the date listed in the Citation and Notification of Penalty. Please see the violations and the correction deadline for each violation starting on page 6.

Total Number of Violations: 4
Your First Correction Deadline is:
July 17, 2023

**Step 1 – Choose a Response
Option and
Act within 15 working days**

Respond now before you lose the ability to discuss potential adjustments to penalty amounts and/or due dates. Please choose one option below and complete the steps on the next page.

Option #1 – Discuss with OSHA

I would like to discuss the citation with an OSHA representative. This may lead to changes in the penalty amount, due date or correction deadlines (if appropriate).

Option #2 – Correct and Pay

I agree with the citation, penalties, and correction deadlines, and do not contest.

Option #3 – Contest the Citation

I do not agree with the citation, penalties, and/or correction deadlines, and would like to contest.

Questions or Concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the citation, penalties, and/or correction deadlines, please call us at (915) 534-6251.

Step 2 – Complete One Option Checklist

Please post a copy of the citation at or near the place where each violation occurred, even if you plan to contest. You can use the checklist to the right to help plan your next steps. Please do not send in your checklist.

Option #1 – Discuss with OSHA

I will complete by:



1. Call: Diego Alvarado Jr., Area Director, at (915) 534-6251 as soon as possible to schedule a meeting with an OSHA representative that must occur **within 15 working days** of receiving this citation. Bring supporting documentation of existing conditions and corrections done thus far. If necessary, you can still contest the citation after this meeting. ****This meeting does NOT extend your 15 working day deadline to contest the citation.****

___ / ___



2. Fill in and post the attached "Notice to Employees OSHA Informal Conference" after scheduling meeting.

___ / ___

Option #2 – Correct Violations and Pay Penalty

I will complete by:



1. Correct violations, then complete and mail the attached "Certification of Corrective Action Worksheet" along with the appropriate evidence of repair (e.g. photos, purchase orders, etc.) to the OSHA office listed on the first page, **postmarked within 10 calendar days after each violation's correction deadline and include any required evidence. If these documents are transmitted by means other than mailing, the date the Agency received the documents is the date of submission.**

___ / ___



2. Pay the **Total Penalty** by using one of the following methods:
****Include your Inspection Number (see first page) on the payment.****

___ / ___

Pay Online: Search "OSHA" on www.pay.gov and complete the "OSHA Penalty Payment Form." Pay by debit, credit or Automated Clearing House (ACH) **within 15 working days.** Penalties over \$25,000 must be paid by ACH and require a Transaction ID (Call 202-693-2170 to obtain one).

Pay by Check: Mail check or money order payable to "DOL-OSHA" for the Total Penalty to the OSHA office listed on the first page **within 15 working days.**

Option #3 – Contest the Citation

I will complete by:



Mail a letter of intent to legally contest to the OSHA office listed on the first page, postmarked within **15 working days.**

___ / ___

U.S. Department of Labor

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
4849 North Mesa
Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912



Citation and Notification of Penalty

To:

Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
and its successors
P.O. Box 12843
El Paso, TX 79913

Inspection Number: 1721214**Inspection Date(s):** 01/16/2024 - 01/18/2024**Issuance Date:** 07/11/2024**Inspection Site:**

8001 Border Steel
Vinton, TX 79821

The violation(s) described in this Citation and Notification of Penalty is (are) alleged to have occurred on or about the day(s) the inspection was made unless otherwise indicated within the description given below.

This Citation and Notification of Penalty (this Citation) describes violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. The penalty(ies) listed herein is (are) based on these violations. You must abate the violations referred to in this Citation by the dates listed and pay the penalties proposed, unless within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) from your receipt of this Citation and Notification of Penalty **you either call to schedule an informal conference (see paragraph below) or** you mail a notice of contest to the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above. Please refer to the enclosed booklet (OSHA 3000) which outlines your rights and responsibilities and which should be read in conjunction with this form. Issuance of this Citation does not constitute a finding that a violation of the Act has occurred unless there is a failure to contest as provided for in the Act or, if contested, unless this Citation is affirmed by the Review Commission or a court.

Posting - The law requires that a copy of this Citation and Notification of Penalty be posted immediately in a prominent place at or near the location of the violation(s) cited herein, or, if it is not practicable because of the nature of the employer's operations, where it will be readily observable by all affected employees. This Citation must remain posted until the violation(s) cited herein has (have) been abated, or for 3 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays), whichever is longer.

Informal Conference - An informal conference is not required. However, if you wish to have such a conference you may request one with the Area Director during the 15 working day contest period by calling (915) 534-6251. During such an informal conference, you may present any evidence or views which you believe would support an adjustment to the citation(s) and/or penalty(ies).

If you are considering a request for an informal conference to discuss any issues related to this Citation and Notification of Penalty, you must take care to schedule it early enough to allow time to contest after the informal conference, should you decide to do so. Please keep in mind that a written letter of intent to contest must be submitted to the Area Director within 15 working days of your receipt of this Citation. The running of this contest period is not interrupted by an informal conference.

If you decide to request an informal conference, please complete, remove and post the Notice to Employees next to this Citation and Notification of Penalty as soon as the time, date, and place of the informal conference have been determined. Be sure to bring to the conference any and all supporting documentation of existing conditions as well as any abatement steps taken thus far. If conditions warrant, we can enter into an informal settlement agreement which amicably resolves this matter without litigation or contest.

Right to Contest – You have the right to contest this Citation and Notification of Penalty. You may contest all citation items or only individual items. You may also contest proposed penalties and/or abatement dates without contesting the underlying violations. **Unless you inform the Area Director in writing that you intend to contest the citation(s) and/or proposed penalty(ies) within 15 working days after receipt, the citation(s) and the proposed penalty(ies) will become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission and may not be reviewed by any court or agency.**

Penalty Payment – Penalties are due within 15 working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. (See the enclosed booklet and the additional information provided related to the Debt Collection Act of 1982.) Make your check or money order payable to “DOL-OSHA”. Please indicate the Inspection Number on the remittance. You can also make your payment electronically at www.pay.gov. At the top of the pay.gov homepage, type "OSHA" in the Search field and select Search. From **OSHA Penalty Payment Form** search result, select Continue. The direct link is:

<https://www.pay.gov/paygov/forms/formInstance.html?agencyFormId=53090334>

You will be required to enter your inspection number when making the payment. Payments can be made by credit card or Automated Clearing House (ACH) using your banking information. Payments of \$25,000 or more require a Transaction ID, and also must be paid using ACH. If you require a Transaction ID, please contact the OSHA Debt Collection Team at (202) 693-2170.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check, money order, or electronic payment for less than the full amount due, and will process the payments as if these restrictions or conditions do not exist.

Notification of Corrective Action – For each violation which you do not contest, you must provide **abatement certification** to the Area Director of the OSHA office issuing the citation and identified above. This abatement certification is to be provided by letter within 10 calendar days after each abatement date. Abatement certification includes the date and method of abatement. If the citation indicates that the violation was corrected during the inspection, no abatement certification is required for that item. The abatement certification letter must be posted at the location where the violation appeared and the corrective action took place or employees must otherwise be effectively informed about abatement activities. A sample abatement certification letter is enclosed with this Citation. In addition, where the citation indicates that **abatement documentation** is necessary, evidence of the purchase or repair of equipment, photographs or video, receipts, training records, etc., verifying that abatement has occurred is required to be provided to the Area Director.

Employer Discrimination Unlawful – The law prohibits discrimination by an employer against an employee for filing a complaint or for exercising any rights under this Act. An employee who believes that he/she has been discriminated against may file a complaint no later than 30 days after the discrimination occurred with the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above.

Employer Rights and Responsibilities – The enclosed booklet (OSHA 3000) outlines additional employer rights and responsibilities and should be read in conjunction with this notification.

Notice to Employees – The law gives an employee or his/her representative the opportunity to object to any abatement date set for a violation if he/she believes the date to be unreasonable. The contest must be mailed to the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above and postmarked within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) of the receipt by the employer of this Citation and Notification of Penalty.

Inspection Activity Data – You should be aware that OSHA publishes information on its inspection and citation activity on the Internet under the provisions of the Electronic Freedom of Information Act. The information related to these alleged violations will be posted when our system indicates that you have received this citation. You are encouraged to review the information concerning your establishment at www.osha.gov. If you have any dispute with the accuracy of the information displayed, please contact this office.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration



NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

An informal conference has been scheduled with OSHA to discuss the citation(s) issued on 07/11/2024. The conference will be held by telephone or at the OSHA office located at 4849 North Mesa, Suite 200, El Paso, TX 79912 on _____ at _____.

Employees and/or representatives of employees have a right to attend an informal conference.

CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET

Inspection Number: 1721214

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024

List the specific method of correction for each item on this citation in this package that does not read "Corrected During Inspection" and return to: **U.S. Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 4849 North Mesa, Suite 200, El Paso, TX 79912.**

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

I certify that the information contained in this document is accurate and that the affected employees and their representatives have been informed of the abatement.

Signature

Date

Typed or Printed Name

Title

NOTE: 29 USC 666(g) whoever knowingly makes any false statements, representation or certification in any application, record, plan or other documents filed or required to be maintained pursuant to the Act shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 6 months or both.

POSTING: A copy of completed Corrective Action Worksheet should be posted for employee review.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1721214
Inspection Date(s): 01/16/2024 - 01/18/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

Citation 1 Item 1 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.184(c)(1): Sling(s) that were damaged or defective were used:

Melt Shop: On or about April 10, 2024, employees were exposed to struck by hazards due to the use of a sling with missing safety latches on sling hooks (Cartec 3/4 Grade 100 Heavy Lifting hook).

ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

July 23, 2024
\$16,131.00

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1721214
Inspection Date(s): 01/16/2024 - 01/18/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

Citation 2 Item 1 Type of Violation: **Repeat - Serious**

29 CFR 1910.157(c)(4): Portable fire extinguishers were not maintained in a fully charged and operable condition:

On or about January 16, 2024, employees were exposed to, 2nd and 3rd degree burns and/or inhalation hazards because the employer did not ensure fire extinguishers were maintained in a fully charged and operable condition in the following areas:

- a) Roll Mill: The fire extinguisher was not maintained in a fully charged (1/4 full) and operable condition.
- b) Baghouse office: The fire extinguisher was not maintained in a fully charged (1/4 full) and operable condition.

Kyoei Steel (DBA Vinton Steel) was previously cited for a violation of this occupational safety and health standard 29 CFR 1910.157(c)(4), which was contained in OSHA inspection number 1558914, citation number 1, item number 8 and was affirmed as a final order on May 4, 2022, with respect to a workplace located at 8001 Border Steel Rd, Vinton Texas, 79821.

ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:

July 23, 2024

Proposed Penalty:

\$50,699.00

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1721214
Inspection Date(s): 01/16/2024 - 01/18/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

Citation 2 Item 2 Type of Violation: **Repeat - Serious**

29 CFR 1910.184(c)(9): Employee(s) were not kept clear of load(s) suspended, or about to be lifted by sling(s):

Melt Shop: On or about January 15, 2024, the employer did not ensure that employees were kept clear of loads about to be lifted and of suspended loads. This condition exposed employees caught-in or caught-between hazards.

Kyoei Steel, LTD was previously cited for a violation of this occupational safety and health standard 29 CFR 1910.184(c)(9), which was contained in OSHA inspection number 1507734, citation number 1, item number 1 and was affirmed as a final order on March 19, 2021, with respect to a workplace located at 8001 Border Steel Rd, Vinton Texas, 79821.

ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:

July 17, 2024

Proposed Penalty:

\$88,721.00

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1721214
Inspection Date(s): 01/16/2024 - 01/18/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

Citation 2 Item 3 Type of Violation: **Repeat - Serious**

29 CFR 1910.303(g)(2)(i): Live parts of electric equipment operating at 50 volts, or more were not guarded against accidental contact by approved cabinets or other forms of approved enclosures, or other means listed under this provision:

Baghouse elevator: On or about January 16, 2024, employees were exposed to electrical shock hazards due to an open/unsecured panel box (120V/480V) exposing live electrical wires and parts.

Kyoei Steel (DBA Vinton Steel) was previously cited of this occupational safety and health standard 29 CFR 1910.303(g)(2)(i), which was contained in OSHA inspection number 1558914, citation number 1, item number 13 and was affirmed as a final order on May 4, 2022, with respect to a workplace located at 8001 Border Steel Rd, Vinton Texas, 79821.

ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

July 23, 2024
\$63,382.00


Diego Alvarado Jr.
Area Director

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
4849 North Mesa
Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912



**INVOICE /
DEBT COLLECTION NOTICE**

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024

Summary of Penalties for Inspection Number: 1721214

Citation 1 Item 1, Serious	\$16,131.00
Citation 2 Item 1, Repeat - Serious	\$50,699.00
Citation 2 Item 2, Repeat - Serious	\$88,721.00
Citation 2 Item 3, Repeat - Serious	\$63,382.00

TOTAL PROPOSED PENALTIES: \$218,933.00

To avoid additional charges, please remit payment promptly to this Area Office for the total amount of the uncontested penalties summarized above. Make your check or money order payable to: "DOL-OSHA". Please indicate OSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on the remittance. You can also make your payment electronically at www.pay.gov. At the top of the pay.gov homepage, type "OSHA" in the Search field and select Search. From the **OSHA Penalty Payment Form** search result, select Continue. The direct link is: <https://www.pay.gov/paygov/forms/formInstance.html?agencyFormId=53090334>. You will be required to enter your inspection number when making the payment. Payments can be made by credit card or Automated Clearing House (ACH) using your banking information. Payments of \$25,000 or more require a Transaction ID, and also must be paid using ACH. If you require a Transaction ID, please contact the OSHA Debt Collection Team at (202) 693-2170.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check, money order, or electronic payment for less than the full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions or conditions do not exist.

If a personal check is issued, it will be converted into an electronic fund transfer (EFT). This means that our bank will copy your check and use the account information on it to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will then usually occur within 24 hours and will be shown on your regular account statement. You will not receive your original check back. The bank will destroy your original check, but

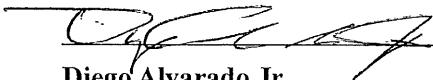
will keep a copy of it. If the EFT cannot be completed because of insufficient funds or closed account, the bank will attempt to make the transfer up to two times.

Pursuant to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-365) and regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 20), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is required to assess interest, delinquent charges, and administrative costs for the collection of delinquent penalty debts for violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

Interest: Interest charges will be assessed at an annual rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on all penalty debt amounts not paid within one month (30 calendar days) of the date on which the debt amount becomes due and payable (penalty due date). The current interest rate is one percent (1%). Interest will accrue from the date on which the penalty amounts (as proposed or adjusted) become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (that is, 15 working days from your receipt of the Citation and Notification of Penalty), unless you file a notice of contest. Interest charges will be waived if the full amount owed is paid within 30 calendar days of the final order.

Delinquent Charges: A debt is considered delinquent if it has not been paid within one month (30 calendar days) of the penalty due date or if a satisfactory payment arrangement has not been made. If the debt remains delinquent for more than 90 calendar days, a delinquent charge of six percent (6%) per annum will be assessed accruing from the date that the debt became delinquent.

Administrative Costs: Agencies of the Department of Labor are required to assess additional charges for the recovery of delinquent debts. These additional charges are administrative costs incurred by the Agency in its attempt to collect an unpaid debt. Administrative costs will be assessed for demand letters sent in an attempt to collect the unpaid debt.



Diego Alvarado Jr.
Area Director

7/11/24

Date

U.S. Department of Labor

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
El Paso Area Office
4849 North Mesa, Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912



NOTICE OF EMPLOYER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The OSHA publication "Employer Rights and Responsibilities Following an OSHA Inspection" is available by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone or barcode scanner.

English - OSHA 3000



OSHA 3000

Publications may also be found at: www.osha.gov/publications

AVISO DE DERECHOS Y RESPONSABILIDADES DEL EMPLEADOR

La publicación de OSHA "Derechos y responsabilidades del empleador después de una inspección de OSHA" está disponible escaneando el código QR a continuación con su teléfono inteligente o escáner de código de barras.

Spanish - OSHA 3195



OSHA 3195

Las publicaciones también se pueden encontrar en: www.osha.gov/publications

Este documento es muy importante. Si ud. No habla inglés,
busque un traductor o llame al (915) 534-6251.

U.S. Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration
4849 North Mesa Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912
Phone: (915) 534-6251 Fax: (915) 534-6259



July 11, 2024

Dear Employer,

On 04 / 10 / 2024, an OSHA compliance officer met with you or your representative as part of an inspection at 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821. This letter includes the citations for the violations that were found (see summary below). Please choose one of the three options from the box to the right and complete the associated steps found on the following page **within 15 working days**. Please call us if you have any questions about the enclosed citation and/or penalties; we are here to help you choose the best option to resolve your citation as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

Diego Alvarado Jr., Area Director

Your Citation Summary
Kyoei Steel, LTD
Inspection Number: 1742402

Total Amount Due: \$50,698.00
Payment Due Date: 15 working days
after receipt of
this letter

You must correct each violation by the date listed in the Citation and Notification of Penalty. Please see the violations and the correction deadline for each violation starting on page 6.

Total Number of Violations: 3
Your First Correction Deadline is:
July 23, 2024

**Step 1 – Choose a Response
Option and
Act within 15 working days**

Respond now before you lose the ability to discuss potential adjustments to penalty amounts and/or due dates. Please choose one option below and complete the steps on the next page.

Option #1 – Discuss with OSHA

I would like to discuss the citation with an OSHA representative. This may lead to changes in the penalty amount, due date or correction deadlines (if appropriate).

Option #2 – Correct and Pay

I agree with the citation, penalties, and correction deadlines, and do not contest.

Option #3 – Contest the Citation

I do not agree with the citation, penalties, and/or correction deadlines, and would like to contest.

Questions or Concerns?

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the citation, penalties, and/or correction deadlines, please call us at (915) 534-6251.

Step 2 – Complete One Option Checklist

Please post a copy of the citation at or near the place where each violation occurred, even if you plan to contest. You can use the checklist to the right to help plan your next steps. Please do not send in your checklist.

Option #1 – Discuss with OSHA

I will complete by:



1. Call: Diego Alvarado Jr., Area Director, at (915) 534-6251 as soon as possible to schedule a meeting with an OSHA representative that must occur **within 15 working days** of receiving this citation. Bring supporting documentation of existing conditions and corrections done thus far. If necessary, you can still contest the citation after this meeting. ****This meeting does NOT extend your 15 working day deadline to contest the citation.****

___ / ___



2. Fill in and post the attached "Notice to Employees OSHA Informal Conference" after scheduling meeting.

___ / ___

Option #2 – Correct Violations and Pay Penalty

I will complete by:



1. Correct violations, then complete and mail the attached "Certification of Corrective Action Worksheet" along with the appropriate evidence of repair (e.g. photos, purchase orders, etc.) to the OSHA office listed on the first page, **postmarked within 10 calendar days after each violation's correction deadline and include any required evidence. If these documents are transmitted by means other than mailing, the date the Agency received the documents is the date of submission.**

___ / ___



2. Pay the **Total Penalty** by using one of the following methods:
****Include your Inspection Number (see first page) on the payment.****

___ / ___

Pay Online: Search "OSHA" on www.pay.gov and complete the "OSHA Penalty Payment Form." Pay by debit, credit or Automated Clearing House (ACH) **within 15 working days.** Penalties over \$25,000 must be paid by ACH and require a Transaction ID (Call 202-693-2170 to obtain one).

Pay by Check: Mail check or money order payable to "DOL-OSHA" for the Total Penalty to the OSHA office listed on the first page **within 15 working days.**

Option #3 – Contest the Citation

I will complete by:



Mail a letter of intent to legally contest to the OSHA office listed on the first page, postmarked within **15 working days.**

___ / ___

U.S. Department of Labor

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
4849 North Mesa
Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912



Citation and Notification of Penalty

To:

Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
and its successors
P.O. Box 12843
El Paso, TX 79913

Inspection Number: 1742402**Inspection Date(s):** 04/10/2024 - 04/10/2024**Issuance Date:** 07/11/2024**Inspection Site:**

8001 Border Steel
Vinton, TX 79821

The violation(s) described in this Citation and Notification of Penalty is (are) alleged to have occurred on or about the day(s) the inspection was made unless otherwise indicated within the description given below.

This Citation and Notification of Penalty (this Citation) describes violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. The penalty(ies) listed herein is (are) based on these violations. You must abate the violations referred to in this Citation by the dates listed and pay the penalties proposed, unless within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) from your receipt of this Citation and Notification of Penalty **you either call to schedule an informal conference (see paragraph below) or** you mail a notice of contest to the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above. Please refer to the enclosed booklet (OSHA 3000) which outlines your rights and responsibilities and which should be read in conjunction with this form. Issuance of this Citation does not constitute a finding that a violation of the Act has occurred unless there is a failure to contest as provided for in the Act or, if contested, unless this Citation is affirmed by the Review Commission or a court.

Posting - The law requires that a copy of this Citation and Notification of Penalty be posted immediately in a prominent place at or near the location of the violation(s) cited herein, or, if it is not practicable because of the nature of the employer's operations, where it will be readily observable by all affected employees. This Citation must remain posted until the violation(s) cited herein has (have) been abated, or for 3 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays), whichever is longer.

Informal Conference - An informal conference is not required. However, if you wish to have such a conference you may request one with the Area Director during the 15 working day contest period by calling (915) 534-6251. During such an informal conference, you may present any evidence or views which you believe would support an adjustment to the citation(s) and/or penalty(ies).

If you are considering a request for an informal conference to discuss any issues related to this Citation and Notification of Penalty, you must take care to schedule it early enough to allow time to contest after the informal conference, should you decide to do so. Please keep in mind that a written letter of intent to contest must be submitted to the Area Director within 15 working days of your receipt of this Citation. The running of this contest period is not interrupted by an informal conference.

If you decide to request an informal conference, please complete, remove and post the Notice to Employees next to this Citation and Notification of Penalty as soon as the time, date, and place of the informal conference have been determined. Be sure to bring to the conference any and all supporting documentation of existing conditions as well as any abatement steps taken thus far. If conditions warrant, we can enter into an informal settlement agreement which amicably resolves this matter without litigation or contest.

Right to Contest – You have the right to contest this Citation and Notification of Penalty. You may contest all citation items or only individual items. You may also contest proposed penalties and/or abatement dates without contesting the underlying violations. **Unless you inform the Area Director in writing that you intend to contest the citation(s) and/or proposed penalty(ies) within 15 working days after receipt, the citation(s) and the proposed penalty(ies) will become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission and may not be reviewed by any court or agency.**

Penalty Payment – Penalties are due within 15 working days of receipt of this notification unless contested. (See the enclosed booklet and the additional information provided related to the Debt Collection Act of 1982.) Make your check or money order payable to “DOL-OSHA”. Please indicate the Inspection Number on the remittance. You can also make your payment electronically at www.pay.gov. At the top of the [pay.gov](http://www.pay.gov) homepage, type "OSHA" in the Search field and select Search. From **OSHA Penalty Payment Form** search result, select Continue. The direct link is:

<https://www.pay.gov/paygov/forms/formInstance.html?agencyFormId=53090334>

You will be required to enter your inspection number when making the payment. Payments can be made by credit card or Automated Clearing House (ACH) using your banking information. Payments of \$25,000 or more require a Transaction ID, and also must be paid using ACH. If you require a Transaction ID, please contact the OSHA Debt Collection Team at (202) 693-2170.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check, money order, or electronic payment for less than the full amount due, and will process the payments as if these restrictions or conditions do not exist.

Notification of Corrective Action – For each violation which you do not contest, you must provide **abatement certification** to the Area Director of the OSHA office issuing the citation and identified above. This abatement certification is to be provided by letter within 10 calendar days after each abatement date. Abatement certification includes the date and method of abatement. If the citation indicates that the violation was corrected during the inspection, no abatement certification is required for that item. The abatement certification letter must be posted at the location where the violation appeared and the corrective action took place or employees must otherwise be effectively informed about abatement activities. A sample abatement certification letter is enclosed with this Citation. In addition, where the citation indicates that **abatement documentation** is necessary, evidence of the purchase or repair of equipment, photographs or video, receipts, training records, etc., verifying that abatement has occurred is required to be provided to the Area Director.

Employer Discrimination Unlawful – The law prohibits discrimination by an employer against an employee for filing a complaint or for exercising any rights under this Act. An employee who believes that he/she has been discriminated against may file a complaint no later than 30 days after the discrimination occurred with the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above.

Employer Rights and Responsibilities – The enclosed booklet (OSHA 3000) outlines additional employer rights and responsibilities and should be read in conjunction with this notification.

Notice to Employees – The law gives an employee or his/her representative the opportunity to object to any abatement date set for a violation if he/she believes the date to be unreasonable. The contest must be mailed to the U.S. Department of Labor Area Office at the address shown above and postmarked within 15 working days (excluding weekends and Federal holidays) of the receipt by the employer of this Citation and Notification of Penalty.

Inspection Activity Data – You should be aware that OSHA publishes information on its inspection and citation activity on the Internet under the provisions of the Electronic Freedom of Information Act. The information related to these alleged violations will be posted when our system indicates that you have received this citation. You are encouraged to review the information concerning your establishment at www.osha.gov. If you have any dispute with the accuracy of the information displayed, please contact this office.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration



NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES OF INFORMAL CONFERENCE

An informal conference has been scheduled with OSHA to discuss the citation(s) issued on 07/11/2024. The conference will be held by telephone or at the OSHA office located at 4849 North Mesa, Suite 200, El Paso, TX 79912 on _____ at _____.

Employees and/or representatives of employees have a right to attend an informal conference.

CERTIFICATION OF CORRECTIVE ACTION WORKSHEET

Inspection Number: 1742402

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024

List the specific method of correction for each item on this citation in this package that does not read "Corrected During Inspection" and return to: **U.S. Department of Labor – Occupational Safety and Health Administration, 4849 North Mesa, Suite 200, El Paso, TX 79912.**

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

Citation Number _____ and Item Number _____ was corrected on _____
By (Method of Abatement): _____

I certify that the information contained in this document is accurate and that the affected employees and their representatives have been informed of the abatement.

Signature

Date

Typed or Printed Name

Title

NOTE: 29 USC 666(g) whoever knowingly makes any false statements, representation or certification in any application, record, plan or other documents filed or required to be maintained pursuant to the Act shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 6 months or both.

POSTING: A copy of completed Corrective Action Worksheet should be posted for employee review.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1742402
Inspection Date(s): 04/10/2024 - 04/10/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

Citation 1 Item 1 Type of Violation: **Serious**

29 CFR 1910.134(e)(1): The employer did not provide a medical evaluation to determine the employees' ability to use a respirator, before the employee was fit tested or required to use the respirator in the workplace:

Melt Shop: On or about January 16, 2024, the employer did not provide a medical evaluation to determine the employees' ability to use a respirator, exposing employees to respiratory hazards.

ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

July 23, 2024
\$12,676.00

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1742402
Inspection Date(s): 04/10/2024 - 04/10/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

The alleged violations below have been grouped because they involve similar or related hazards that may increase the potential for injury or illness.

Citation 2 Item 1 a Type of Violation: **Repeat - Serious**

29 CFR 1910.134(f)(2): 29 CFR 1910.134(f)(2): The employer did not ensure that an employee using a tight-fitting respirator is fit tested prior to initial use, whenever a different respirator facepiece (size, style, make or model) is used, and at least annually thereafter.

Melt Shop: On or about January 16, 2024, the employer did not ensure that employees utilizing using tight-fitting respirators were fit tested prior to initial use, exposing employees to respiratory hazards.

Kyoei Steel (DBA Vinton Steel) was previously cited for a violation of this occupational safety and health standard 29 CFR 1910.134(f)(2), which was contained in OSHA inspection number 1558914, citation number 1, item number 4(a) and was affirmed as a final order on May 4, 2022, with respect to a workplace located at 8001 Border Steel Rd, Vinton Texas, 79821.

ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:
Proposed Penalty:

July 26, 2024
\$38,022.00

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Inspection Number: 1742402
Inspection Date(s): 04/10/2024 - 04/10/2024
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024



Citation and Notification of Penalty

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821

Citation 2 Item 1 b Type of Violation: **Repeat - Serious**

29 CFR 1910.134(g)(1)(i)(A): Respirators with tight-fitting facepieces were worn by employees who had facial hair that came between the sealing surface of the facepiece and the face or that interfered with valve function:

a) Melt Shop: On or about January 16, 2024, the employer did not ensure employees wearing respirators during work were clean shaven.

b) Baghouse: On or about January 16, 2024, the employer did not ensure employees wearing respirators during work were clean shaven.

Kyoei Steel (DBA Vinton Steel) was previously cited for a violation of this occupational safety and health standard (29 CFR 1910.134(g)(1)(i)(A)), which was contained in OSHA inspection number 1558914, citation number 1, item number 4(b) and was affirmed as a final order on May 4, 2022, with respect to a workplace located at 8001 Border Steel Rd, Vinton Texas, 79821.


ABATEMENT DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED FOR THIS ITEM

Date By Which Violation Must be Abated:

July 23, 2024

Proposed Penalty:

\$0.00


Diego Alvarado Jr.
Area Director

See pages 1 through 4 of this Citation and Notification of Penalty for information on employer and employee rights and responsibilities.

U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
4849 North Mesa
Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912



**INVOICE /
DEBT COLLECTION NOTICE**

Company Name: Kyoei Steel, LTD, dba Vinton Steel LLC
Inspection Site: 8001 Border Steel, Vinton, TX 79821
Issuance Date: 07/11/2024

Summary of Penalties for Inspection Number: 1742402

Citation 1 Item 1, Serious	\$12,676.00
Citation 2 Item 1a, Repeat - Serious	\$38,022.00
Citation 2 Item 1b, Repeat - Serious	\$0.00

TOTAL PROPOSED PENALTIES: **\$50,698.00**

To avoid additional charges, please remit payment promptly to this Area Office for the total amount of the uncontested penalties summarized above. Make your check or money order payable to: "DOL-OSHA". Please indicate OSHA's Inspection Number (indicated above) on the remittance. You can also make your payment electronically at www.pay.gov. At the top of the pay.gov homepage, type "OSHA" in the Search field and select Search. From the **OSHA Penalty Payment Form** search result, select Continue. The direct link is: <https://www.pay.gov/paygov/forms/formInstance.html?agencyFormId=53090334>. You will be required to enter your inspection number when making the payment. Payments can be made by credit card or Automated Clearing House (ACH) using your banking information. Payments of \$25,000 or more require a Transaction ID, and also must be paid using ACH. If you require a Transaction ID, please contact the OSHA Debt Collection Team at (202) 693-2170.

OSHA does not agree to any restrictions or conditions or endorsements put on any check, money order, or electronic payment for less than the full amount due, and will cash the check or money order as if these restrictions or conditions do not exist.

If a personal check is issued, it will be converted into an electronic fund transfer (EFT). This means that our bank will copy your check and use the account information on it to electronically debit your account for the amount of the check. The debit from your account will then usually occur within 24 hours and will be shown on your regular account statement. You will not receive your original check back. The bank will destroy your original check, but

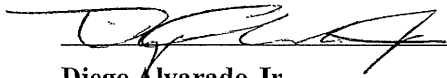
will keep a copy of it. If the EFT cannot be completed because of insufficient funds or closed account, the bank will attempt to make the transfer up to two times.

Pursuant to the Debt Collection Act of 1982 (Public Law 97-365) and regulations of the U.S. Department of Labor (29 CFR Part 20), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration is required to assess interest, delinquent charges, and administrative costs for the collection of delinquent penalty debts for violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act.

Interest: Interest charges will be assessed at an annual rate determined by the Secretary of the Treasury on all penalty debt amounts not paid within one month (30 calendar days) of the date on which the debt amount becomes due and payable (penalty due date). The current interest rate is one percent (1%). Interest will accrue from the date on which the penalty amounts (as proposed or adjusted) become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (that is, 15 working days from your receipt of the Citation and Notification of Penalty), unless you file a notice of contest. Interest charges will be waived if the full amount owed is paid within 30 calendar days of the final order.

Delinquent Charges: A debt is considered delinquent if it has not been paid within one month (30 calendar days) of the penalty due date or if a satisfactory payment arrangement has not been made. If the debt remains delinquent for more than 90 calendar days, a delinquent charge of six percent (6%) per annum will be assessed accruing from the date that the debt became delinquent.

Administrative Costs: Agencies of the Department of Labor are required to assess additional charges for the recovery of delinquent debts. These additional charges are administrative costs incurred by the Agency in its attempt to collect an unpaid debt. Administrative costs will be assessed for demand letters sent in an attempt to collect the unpaid debt.



Diego Alvarado Jr.
Area Director

7/11/24

Date

U.S. Department of Labor

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
El Paso Area Office
4849 North Mesa, Suite 200
El Paso, TX 79912



NOTICE OF EMPLOYER RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The OSHA publication "Employer Rights and Responsibilities Following an OSHA Inspection" is available by scanning the QR code below with your smartphone or barcode scanner.

English - OSHA 3000



OSHA 3000

Publications may also be found at: www.osha.gov/publications

AVISO DE DERECHOS Y RESPONSABILIDADES DEL EMPLEADOR

La publicación de OSHA "Derechos y responsabilidades del empleador después de una inspección de OSHA" está disponible escaneando el código QR a continuación con su teléfono inteligente o escáner de código de barras.

Spanish - OSHA 3195



OSHA 3195

Las publicaciones también se pueden encontrar en: www.osha.gov/publications