

LOCKOUT/TAGOUT

CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS ENERGY



Overview

Every workplace has the need for on-going maintenance. Installation, repair and servicing of machines and equipment may seem routine, but can be dangerous to employees performing the work.

Serious injury can be caused by the sudden and unexpected startup of the machinery or equipment, contact with live electrical circuit or the unexpected release of stored energy.

Equipment that is shut down may inadvertently be re-started or re-energized by a co-worker, or equipment that was thought to be shut down may be controlled by automatic processors, timers or computers and may be re-start automatically and without warning.

OSHA estimates that failure to control hazardous energy sources results in:

- 10 % of serious industrial accidents.
- 28,000 lost work days injuries per year.
- Approximately 120 deaths per year.

Fortunately, these hazards can be avoided through the use of lockout/tag-out procedures.

The Lockout/Tagout standard requires the adoption and implementation of practices and procedures to shut down equipment, isolate it from its energy source(s), and prevent the release of potentially hazardous energy while maintenance and servicing activities are being performed. It contains minimum performance requirements, and definitive criteria for establishing an effective program for the control of hazardous energy.

All new equipment installed after January 2, 1990 must be designed to accept lockout of its energy-isolating device.

DEFINITIONS

Lockout – The placement of a lockout device on an energy – isolating device, in accordance with an established procedure, ensuring that the energy – isolating device and the equipment being controlled cannot be operated until the lockout device is removed.

Tag-out – the placement of a tag-out device on an energy-isolating device, in accordance with an established procedure, to indicate that the energy-isolating device and the equipment being controlled may not operated until the tag-out device is removed.

Lockout device – Any device that uses positive means such as a lock, either key or combination type, to hold an energy-isolating device in a safe position, thereby preventing the energizing of machinery or equipment. When properly installed, a blank flange or bolted slip blind are considered equivalent to lockout devices.

Tag-out device – Any prominent warning device, such as a tag and a means of attachment, that can be securely fastened to an energy-isolating device in accordance with an established procedure. The tag indicates that the machine or equipment to which it is attached is not to be operated until the tag-out device is removed in accordance with the energy control procedure.

Energy-isolating device – Any mechanical device that physically prevents the transmission or release of energy. These include, but are not limited to, manually-operated electrical circuit breakers, disconnect switches, line valves, and blocks.

Capable of being locked out – An energy-isolating device is considered capable of being locked out if it meets one of the following requirements:

- It is designed with a hasp to which a lock can attached;
- It is designed with any other integral part through which a lock can be affixed;
- It has a locking mechanism built into it; or
- It can be locked without dismantling, rebuilding, or replacing the energy isolating device or permanently altering its energy control capability.

For More Notes Contact us:

Shark International Safety Technologies

Email: info@sistindia.org | info.sistindia@gmail.com

Call : +91-9603 881 038 | +91-9700 459 909