



EHS Fact Sheet

Lockout/Tagout

Introduction

Lockout/tagout, or the control of hazardous energy, is required by OSHA to protect employees from accidental energization of machines and equipment during maintenance activities.

Lockout/ tagout compliance is estimated to prevent 120 worker fatalities and 50,000 injuries per year. Lockout/tagout programs are in place to provide employees with the understanding and provisions to safely perform service or maintenance duties on equipment or machines.



Lockout/ tagout procedures

Lockout/tagout procedures should be practiced any time there is the potential of unexpected energization, start-up of machinery or equipment, or the release of hazardous energy during maintenance activities.

Oklahoma State University's lockout/tagout procedures will entail the steps for:

- energy isolation,
- placement, removal and transfer of lockout devices,
- and the restoration of power after service and maintenance procedures are performed.



Keeping yourself protected

- Learn and understand any energy control procedures set forth by your employer.
- Only use authorized lockout/tagout equipment to ensure compatibility and durability.
- Ensure that you and your co-workers can easily identify who placed the lockout/tagout equipment.
- Ensure that new or overhauled equipment is capable of being locked out.
- Never remove or ignore a lockout/tagout device that was placed by another employee.