

Lockout Tagout

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Lockout Tagout: A Critical Safety Regulation

Lockout tagout is an important safety component that is critical to safeguarding workers around the machinery and equipment they operate, service and maintain. This important safety practice involves de-energizing electrical circuits, closing valves, neutralizing extreme temperatures and securing moving parts so hazardous energy isn't re-introduced while equipment is being serviced.

An effective lockout tagout program is most successful when it includes the complete safety picture – locks, tags and devices, as well as proper lockout procedures, program documentation, employee training, periodic inspections or other procedural elements.



Benefits of a Lockout Tagout Program:

- **SAVING LIVES** – Preventing an estimated 250,000 incidents, 50,000 injuries and 120 fatalities annually
- **CUTTING COSTS** – Significantly decreasing lost employee time and insurance costs
- **IMPROVING PRODUCTIVITY** – Reducing equipment downtime

Regulatory Requirements

OSHA 29CFR 1910.147 – Control of Hazardous Energy

General industry workers performing servicing and/or maintenance on machines or equipment and who are exposed to the unexpected energization, startup or release of hazardous energy.

OSHA 29CFR 1910.333 – Electrical Safety

Safety-related work practices shall be employed to prevent electric shock or other injuries resulting from either direct or indirect electrical contacts, when work is performed near or on equipment or circuits which are or may be energized.

ANSI Z244.1-2003 – Lockout Tagout and Alternative Methods

A voluntary national consensus standard that represents several industry hazardous energy control best practices and also promotes greater flexibility through the use of alternative methods based on risk assessments and application of the hazard control hierarchy.

Lockout Tagout is in the Top 5 Cited OSHA Violations

Below shows the most cited lockout tagout regulations for Fiscal Year 2015:

Number of Violations		
1910.147(c)(4)(i)	Requirements for General Procedures	644
1910.147(c)(1)	Program Requirements	440
1910.147(c)(6)(i)	Periodically Inspecting Procedures	376
1910.147(c)(7)(i)	Training Requirements	289
1910.147(c)(7)(i)(A)	Receiving Training	196

* Data is reflective of OSHA's Fiscal Year 2015
(Released November 2016)



Go Beyond Compliance with the Expanded Guide to Lockout Tagout

Download the guidebook to learn more about the 6 essential elements of lockout tagout!

Download at BradyID.com/lockouttagout



▶ 6 Essential Elements of Lockout Tagout



1. Program/Policy

A written lockout document establishes and explains the elements of your program. It's important to take into account not only OSHA's guidelines, but also custom requirements for your employees that ensure they can understand and apply the program to their workday.



2. Machine/Task-Specific Procedures

Lockout procedures should be formally documented and should easily identify the equipment covered. They should also detail the specific steps necessary for shutting down, isolating, blocking and securing equipment to control hazardous energy, and include steps for the placement, removal and transfer of lockout tagout devices.



3. Identify & Mark Energy Isolation Points

Locate and identify all energy control points, including valves, switches, breakers and plugs with permanently placed and standardized labels or tags.



4. Training and Periodic Inspections/Audits

Train authorized, affected and other employees, communicate processes and conduct periodic inspections. Training should include OSHA requirements and specific program elements, such as your machine-specific procedures.



5. Provide Proper Lockout Devices

Provide employees with the necessary devices to keep them safe. There are many products on the market, and selecting the most appropriate solution for your application is the key to lockout effectiveness. It's important to document and use devices that best fit each lockout point.



6. Sustainability

Consistently review your program and create a safety culture that proactively addresses lockout tagout. This allows your company to focus on maintaining a world-class program, instead of starting from scratch each year and reacting only when something goes wrong.