

Safety Meetings are important!

They: get your employees actively involved
encourage safety awareness
help identify problems before they become accidents
motivate employees to follow proper safety procedures

We are happy to provide you with a monthly topic for your agenda.

ROUTE TO:

- General Manager
- Safety Coordinator
- Supervisor Dept. _____
- Other _____
- Date of Meeting _____

May 2021

Safety & Regulatory Update

Lock-out/Tag-out is a process to prevent the release of uncontrolled energy during equipment maintenance. In our industry, the Lock-out/Tag-out process should be used when performing maintenance on equipment, e.g., cryogenic pumps, vacuum systems, or any other system with a potential energy release.

OSHA reports that 10% of all serious accidents are due to the failure to lock-out equipment. Failure to lock-out these sources of energy can result in injuries and damaged equipment.

NOTE: The Lock-out process may require more than a single lock out to shut down equipment. One lock may shut down the main energy source however there may be a secondary energy source downstream that requires a second lock-out mechanism.

Hazardous Energy Control (aka, Lockout/ Tagout) Standard does not require a written energy control program; however, the standard does have three requirements that include documentation and certification of records:



1. **Energy Control Procedure.** Paragraph 1910.147(c)(4)(i) states that employers must **document** the procedures used to isolate energy source(s), and render inoperative any machine or equipment prior to servicing, maintenance, or repair. These procedures are necessary if energization, start up, or release of stored energy could injure workers.
2. **Periodic Inspection.** Paragraph 1910.147(c)(6)(ii) requires employees to **certify** the inspection by documenting the date of the inspection and the machine or equipment inspected and the employee who performed the inspection.
3. **Training.** Paragraph (c)(7)(iv) provides that employers must **certify** that individual employees completed the required training, and the training is current. The certification must contain each employee's name and training date. The training should include both Authorized and Affected employees.



Main and Secondary Energy Types

<u>Type of Energy</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Potential Hazard</u>	<u>Lock-out</u>
Electrical	Electricity running to Oxygen pump	Electrocution	Close breaker on electrical box. Lock out box. Isolates electrical energy supply.
Pneumatic	Gas pressure in line	Uncontrolled release and injury	Close tank valve, Drain liquid oxygen from line and vent residual gas, lock-out, valve. Isolates/ removes compressed gas in the line.
Chemical	Ammonia leak	Abrasion of respiratory track, burns to the eye.	Isolate area. None recommended, unless company has a trained and properly equipped Emergency Response Team.
Thermal	Oxidizing liquid/gas	Cryogenic burn. Fire/Explosion	Use oxygen clean tools and Drain liquid oxygen from line and vent residual gas.
Hydraulic Line	Hydraulic lift gate pump	Sudden release of pressure and lift gate jumps/falls.	Locate Electrical Disconnect that powers a hydraulic pump. Isolates hydraulic pump motor.
Hydraulic Line	Hydraulic lines for lift gate	Sudden release of pressure and lift gate jumps/falls.	Locate Ball Valve. Stops flow/backflow in hydraulic oil circuits.
Steam	Steam boiler/furnace	Burns	Locate Ball Valve, Gate Valve, Butterfly Valve. Stops supply/return of steam.

Note: There is an exception for minor servicing activities that take place during normal operations, provided other safeguards are in place.

If you have questions about a lock-out/tag-out program, please contact Marilyn Dempsey.



May Heats Up

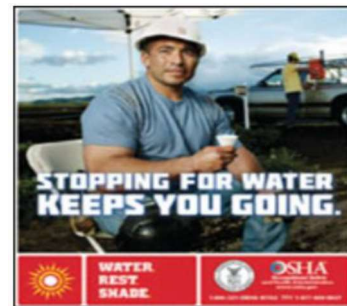
The end of May in many parts of the United States serves as the unofficial start of summer, with temperatures starting to climb. If you live in a region of the United States that experiences high temperature (or a combination of heat and humidity), you are required, under OSHA's general duty clause, to advise your employees of the heat hazard and train them on methods to avoid heat illness.

Note: Check your local and state regulations for additional requirements, e.g., Indoor Heat Laws in the California Workplace

[Employer Responsibility to Protect Workers \(link\)](#)

Under OSHA law, employers are responsible for providing workplaces free of known safety hazards. This includes protecting workers from extreme heat. An employer with workers exposed to high temperatures should establish a complete heat illness prevention program.

- Provide workers with water, rest and shade.
- Allow new or returning workers to gradually increase workloads and take more frequent breaks as they acclimatize or build a tolerance for working in the heat.
- Plan for emergencies and train workers on prevention.
- Monitor workers for signs of illness.



May 31 is Heat Safety Awareness Day. This day is an excellent opportunity to educate workers not only on the dangers of heat stress in the workplace, but also of the dangers that prolonged exertion in the heat can bring off the job as well. Heat Safety training information (downloadable posters and a short YouTube training link) can be found on this [OSHA link](#).

For further information, please contact:

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