

Lockout/Tagout: Control Hazardous Energy

Why it matters. Machines can start, move or release energy while you work on them. Lockout/tagout (LOTO) keeps a machine off until you finish. OSHA estimates that lockout/tagout prevents about 120 deaths and 50,000 injuries each year in the US.

KEY POINTS

- Energy is not only electricity. It can also be mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical or thermal.
- Only authorized, trained workers apply locks and tags.
- Each worker puts his or her own lock on the machine. Your lock has your name.
- A tag alone is a warning. A lock is a barrier. Use a lock when the machine can take one.
- Only the person who put on the lock removes it.

STEP BY STEP

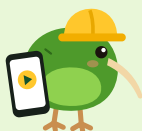
1. Prepare: know the energy sources, the hazards and how to control them.
2. Tell the affected workers that the machine will be shut down.
3. Shut down the machine with its normal stop procedure.
4. Isolate every energy source: open breakers, close valves, block parts.
5. Put your lock and tag on each isolating device.
6. Release stored energy: bleed pressure, block springs, let parts cool.
7. Verify: try to start the machine. It must not start. Then return the controls to OFF.

NEVER

- ✗ Never work on a machine that only has the switch OFF.
- ✗ Never remove another person's lock.
- ✗ Never skip the verify step.

TALK ABOUT IT

1. Which machines in our area have more than one energy source?
2. Where are the isolation points for the machine you use most?
3. What do you do if you find a lock and the owner is not on site?



Watch this talk as a short video — and get it in your crew's languages.

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Language used: _____

By signing, I confirm that I attended this talk and understood it.