ThirdCoast Underwriters
Part of the AF Group

Toolbox Talk

Machine Guard Overview

Any part of a machine that moves presents a hazard. Guarding eliminates or controls this danger.

Dangers associated with poor guarding:

- Rotating parts or tooling causing lacerations, punctures, caught in exposures and scalping
- Reciprocating and cutting motions creating lacerations and amputation
- In-running nip points causing pinch points
- Punching, shearing and bending creating pinch points, amputations and crush/mash injury

(Give an example of each type of motion and the injury it might cause as it applies to the machinery used in your department. For example: even a smooth shaft rotating slowly can grasp clothing or hair.)

Safe practices regarding machine guards:

- Never operate equipment that has a guard or barrier removed or damaged
- Before safeguards or other guarding devices are removed for repair, adjustment or service, the power for the equipment must be turned off and the main switch locked out and tagged
- No machine may be started unless the guards are in place and in good condition
- Defective or missing guards must be reported immediately to the supervisor and the equipment taken out of service
- Employees should not work on or around mechanical operating equipment while wearing neckties, loose clothing, watches, rings or other jewelry

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Topic:

Date:

Presented by:

Organization/Department Name

Attendee Printed Name	Signature

Comments: