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MACHINE GUARDS AND TOOL SAFETY

I. INTRODUCTION

Injuries can be caused by the misuse of tools and equipment. This regulation is designed to ensure that equipment and machines are operated safely. This regulation applies to all employees who work with, or adjacent to, equipment and machines that may pose a safety hazard.

II. STATIONARY MACHINES OR EQUIPMENT GUARDING

Machines and equipment may include, but are not limited to, compressors, bench grinders, fuel pumps, compactors, table saws, etc. Any machine part, function, or process that may cause injury must be safeguarded. When the operation of a machine or accidental contact with it can injure the operator or others in the vicinity, the hazards must be either controlled or eliminated.

A machine hazard occurs at the point of operation where the actual work is performed and the hazard can be created by components which transmit energy such as pulleys, belts, chains, gears, couplings, or flywheels, or other parts which move while the machine is working, including reciprocating, rotating, and transverse parts. Machines and equipment shall be guarded to protect the operator from these hazards and various methods may be used. The preferred method shall be to secure a physical guard to the machine or equipment itself. When a physical barrier guard is infeasible, methods such as two-hand trips and guarding by location may be implemented. A guard shall not create a hazard in itself. Upon request, Risk and Safety Services is available to evaluate and consult on the appropriate methods for machine guarding.

Employees shall not by-pass sensors or remove guards unless they have been designated to perform servicing or maintenance to the equipment, and have completed the necessary energy-isolating procedures.

For specific rules on various types of equipment see Exhibit 6.01mm.

III. EMPLOYEE TRAINING

Employees shall not operate equipment without being trained on its proper and safe operation and maintenance.