

UMS Safety Support Updates, News and Other Topics of Interest February 2017

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This Month's Topic Reminder – Lockout Tagout Audits

Lockout Tagout isn't just about electricity... Let's explain.

The OSHA Standard *The Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout)* is required if you (or your employees) are exposed to hazardous energy while servicing and maintaining equipment and machinery. The key word here is 'hazardous energy'. In other words, hazardous energy is not just electrical, although when you ask about Lockout Tagout (LOTO), most people will associate it with strictly electrical, and perhaps mechanical.



But hazardous energy can also include sources such as: hydraulic, pneumatic (gases/air), chemical, thermal, fluid under pressure, potential (stored energy such as springs or gravity) or other sources. And the unexpected startup or release of stored energy can result in serious injury or death to workers.



With that in mind, take a look around your work areas. Do you have energy sources (such as the ones described above) that would cause injury if an employee was servicing or maintaining it and it had an unexpected energization or startup of the equipment or release of hazardous energy? If so, then you should audit your lockout tagout program to ensure that it has all the required elements which consists of energy control procedures, employee training and periodic inspections.

OSHA requires that an annual audit be conducted on your energy control program at least annually by an authorized employee not involved in the energy control procedure being inspected.

If you need any assistance in any of your LOTO program elements, or help with your audits or training, please contact the UMaine Safety and Environmentally Management office at 581-4055, or email us at sem@maine.edu



If you formally worked at 16 Central Street

Did you previously work at the UMS offices located at 16 Central Street in Bangor? If so, your 16 Central e2Campus accounts will be deactivated. But don't forget to sign up for the emergency/e2Campus alerting system at your new campus location.



What Were They Thinking?



Not a UMS campus work-area image

So... is this worker in the process of shimmying up, or slipping down?

Spot the Safety Violation(s)



UMS campus work-area image(s)

NOTE: When we observe these hazards, we immediately notify the area supervisor or the campus Facilities Management.