

MBAA Safety Tool Box Talk



Machine Safeguarding

Overview

Moving parts have the potential to cause severe injuries such as crushed fingers or hands, amputations, burns, or blindness. Safeguards are essential for protecting workers from these preventable injuries. Any machine part, function, or process that may cause injury must be safeguarded. When the operation of a machine or accidental contact can injure the operator or others in the vicinity, the hazards must be eliminated or controlled. (OSHA)

Guard Requirements

All guards must:

- Prevent contact,
- Be secured in place or otherwise be tamper proof,
- Create no new hazard,
- Allow for lubrication with the guard still in place, and
- Not interfere with the machine operation.

Types of Guarding

- Guards: Fixed, interlocking, adjustable, or self-adjusting.
- Devices: Pressure sensing, pullback, restraint, operational controls, or gates.
- Location or distance: Locating the machine so that hazardous areas are not normally accessible.
- Feeding and Ejection methods: automatic feeding, automatic ejection, robot use
- Miscellaneous aids: Awareness barriers, protective shields, hand-feeding tools and holding devices.

Guards Only Work When Used

- Never remove a guard or use a machine if the guard is not in position.
- When guards are removed, power to the machine must be turned off.
- Keep hands away from moving parts and keep guards in place.
- Never reach around or under a guard.
- Always report missing or damaged guards. Don't operate a machine without a guard. If a guard becomes damaged or inoperative while the machine is operating, shut down the machine and inspect and repair any issues.

Operating Instructions

Having operating instructions for machines ensures that they are not only run correctly, but also safely. Instructions help operators understand how the machine works which will help reduce the likelihood of an injury. Operating instructions should include at least the following:

- Pre-startup inspection requirements
- Location of the machine's control panel(s), and how each control functions.
- How to adjust the machine, including any guards, and how to feed items into the machine.
- How to start, run, and shut-down the machine under normal operations.
- How to perform emergency shut-down procedures.

Maintenance & Lockout / Tagout

Lockout / tagout should be used during any major work, including maintenance, when guards are removed or bypassed. This includes shutting the power off the equipment, or any other sources of hazardous energy, to protect the person(s) working on the equipment.

Routine adjustments or lubrication that can be done without removing or bypassing a guard may be done without taking any extra precautions, including lockout / tagout.

Training

Ensure all employees are trained on the hazards of the equipment they work with and how to properly operate the equipment. Also, ensure employees are trained on the types of guards in place, especially for the type of equipment he/she will be operating. Lastly, ensure employees know who to contact about missing or damaged guards.

LINKS

Please refer to the links below or ask the MBAA Brewery Safety Committee for additional information as needed.

- [OSHA Machine Guarding](#)
- [OSHA Machine Guarding eTool](#)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON
BREWERY SAFETY PROGRAMS,
PLEASE VISIT THE MBAA SAFETY
WEBSITE AT:

www.mbaa.com/brewresources