

Toolbox Talk

45. Machinery



What?

- A machine is an assembly, (with a drive system) consisting of linked parts or components, at least one of which moves, and which are joined together for a specific application.
- Machinery is used in a whole variety of ways to make or shape things and can be powered by electricity, air pressure, steam or hydraulic fluids

Why?

- Machines can inflict serious injuries unless proper safeguards are taken to minimise the risk.
- Certain work on machinery such as making adjustments or alterations etc. can be inherently dangerous and therefore requires a safe system of work to eliminate or minimise the risk
- Operatives must be fully trained and competent making sure that all guards are in place, secure and correctly adjusted before use



Do



- ✓ Check that safety devices such as interlocks, trip wires, emergency stops, work properly – if not, report the matter immediately
- ✓ Wear correct PPE
- ✓ Keep away from moving parts such as rotating saw blades – use push sticks etc
- ✓ Follow the correct operating procedures
- ✓ Report any damaged or faulty machinery
- ✓ Isolate before making any adjustments

Don't



- ✗ Undertake any work e.g. cleaning, maintenance or repairs, without first isolating the machine
- ✗ Rely on a stop button even if the job will only take a few minutes, always securely isolate using the proper system
- ✗ Wear loose clothing, jewellery or other items near moving machinery
- ✗ Go near exposed moving parts e.g. rotating saw blades
- ✗ Use if guards are broken or missing
- ✗ Remove guards or other safeguards



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