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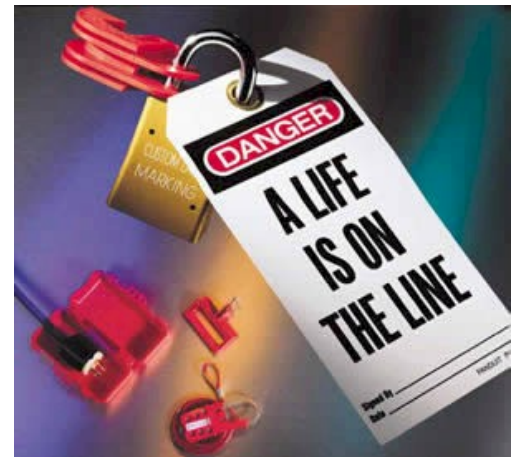
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Isolation of Hazardous Energy

OSHA has a standard in place that establishes minimum performance requirements for the control of hazardous energy. Any condition or action that has the potential for an unplanned release of, or unwanted contact with, an energy source that may result in harm or injury to people, property, or the environment should be considered hazardous.

Hazardous energy can include:

- Mechanical
- Electrical
- Pressure
- Temperature
- Chemical
- Biological
- Radiation
- Sound
- Gravity
- Motion



The control of hazardous energy during installation, servicing and / or maintenance of machines, equipment or processes involving energy sources is very important. Lock Out / Tag Out (LO/TO) is an essential step towards protecting workers from injury and possible fatality.

LO/TO involves applying physical barriers in the form of a lock and / or tag to prevent the unexpected release of harmful energy sources. When performing LO/TO, you must be certain that “ALL” energy sources within the work space or equipment are identified and isolated.

What to Look for:

- Create a safe work environment by de-energizing all energy sources.
- Confirm that tags are legible, made of durable material, and are securely fastened.
- Use energy isolation devices such as locks, blinds, double blinds, and blocks in accordance with established procedures to prevent transmission or release of energy.
- Confirm that all controls, valves, or mechanisms are in their off or safest position.
- Confirm that electrical equipment, cords, and / or tools are properly grounded.
- Review drawings and schematics to determine all possible energy sources.
- Be alert to the possibility of defective electrical connections, valves, or other devices at collective sources such as pipe manifolds, feed-lines, switchboards, electronic cabinets, generators, fuse panels, and boxes.

For more information, please refer to GIS’ Isolation of Hazardous Energy Policy.



SAFETY ALERT