



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



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TAKING DAMAGED EQUIPMENT OUT OF SERVICE

Recently, LIFE Representatives making regular HSE visits to Fabrication facilities have made findings of damaged equipment. This brings into question what we should do if we find equipment needing repair or needing to be taken out of service and repaired or discarded.

"Taking tools and equipment out of service" means to temporarily or permanently remove a piece of machinery or tool from active use, usually due to a safety concern, malfunction, or for maintenance purposes, often by attaching a visible tag clearly indicating it should not be used until further inspection or repair.

Key points about taking tools and equipment out of service:

- **Safety first:**

The primary reason for taking equipment out of service is to prevent accidents or injuries by ensuring that potentially faulty tools are not used.

- **Visual indication:**

A prominent "out of service" tag is typically attached to the equipment to alert users that it should not be operated.

- **Documentation:**

A record should be kept of the equipment taken out of service, including the reason for removal, date, and who removed it.

- **Inspection and repair:**

Once removed from service, the equipment should be inspected by a qualified person to identify the problem and determine necessary repairs.

Examples of situations where equipment might be taken out of service:

- **Damaged tools:** A hammer with a cracked head, a wrench with a broken handle.
- **Faulty machinery:** A malfunctioning power drill, a machine with electrical issues.
- **Expired safety gear:** A worn-out safety harness, expired respirator.

Preventative maintenance: Taking equipment out of service for routine cleaning or lubrication checks.

***Report all incidents immediately to the Hotline
1-855-543-5163.***

SAFETY ALERT