

# MOVING MACHINES

Safety Topic V6-0542

Site Safety, Machine Guarding

Moving machine parts have the potential to cause severe workplace injuries including:

- Caught-in, Crushed-by, and Mangled-by Injuries
- Bruises, Strains, and Sprains
- Abrasions, Lacerations, and Amputations
- Burns
- Eye Injuries and Blindness
- Shocks and Electrocutions
- Struck-by Injuries
- Injuries so severe they result in death



**OSHA Standard 1910.212(a)(1)** *One or more methods of machine guarding shall be provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks.*

Injuries most often occur when workers operate unguarded or inadequately safeguarded machinery.

- Any machinery that can cause injury must be safeguarded such that the hazards must be eliminated or controlled.
- Machine guarding shields, devices, and safety features cover the hazardous areas, functions, or processes of machinery and prevent injury to the machine operator, and other workers nearby.
- Only machine operators should be close to the machinery and all other workers must remain at a safe distance.
- Do not override, disable, remove, or alter any machine guards or safeguarding devices. Know who to contact if a machine guard or safeguarding device is damaged, missing, or not working properly.
- Avoid wearing loose-fitting clothing, dangling jewelry, hanging badges, or long hair that could get caught in moving parts.

## Discussion

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***How can effective machine guarding reduce the risk of injury?***

***Are there any situations in which removing the machine guard would be recommended?***