

MIOSHA Fact Sheet

Lockout/Tagout For Construction



Construction workers can be exposed to serious physical harm or death if hazardous energy is not properly controlled. The general requirements for lockout/tagout applicable to most construction work practices are located in the Construction Standard [Part 1, General Rules](#) - Rule 127. The rule outlines measures for controlling hazardous energies including electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, thermal and other energy sources.

Electricians and linemen who work with electricity every day face a great risk. The specific lockout/tagout requirements to protect employees working on electric circuits, equipment, and power transmission and distribution lines are found in the Construction Standard [Part 16, Power Transmission and Distribution](#) – Rule 1926.961(a)-(c)(13); and the Construction Standard [Part 17, Electrical Installations](#) – Rule 1724.

It is imperative that employers develop a lockout/tagout procedure and provide training for their employees to ensure that they know, understand, and follow the procedure to protect them from being exposed to hazardous energy sources while they are working.

Critical requirements employers must do to protect their employees.

- Develop, implement, and enforce an energy control and lockout/tagout procedure and review annually.
- Provide effective training as mandated for all employees covered by the standards.
- Use lockout devices for equipment that can be locked out. Tagout devices may be used in lieu of lockout devices only if the tagout program provides employee protection equivalent to that provided through a lockout program.
- Ensure that new or overhauled equipment is capable of being locked out.
- Develop, implement, and enforce an effective tagout program for machines or equipment that are not capable of being locked out.
- Use only lockout/tagout devices authorized for the particular equipment or machinery and ensure that they are durable, standardized and substantial.
- Ensure that lockout/tagout devices identify the individual users.
- Establish a policy that permits only the employee who applied a lockout/tagout device to remove it.
- Comply with the additional energy control provisions in MIOSHA standards when machines or equipment must be tested or repositioned, when outside contractors perform work onsite, in group lockout situations, and during shift or personnel changes.
- When performing work, deenergize transmission and distribution lines and equipment for the purpose of protecting employees.

For additional training and assistance, please contact the Consultation Education and Training Division at www.michigan.gov/cetrca.

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