

# LIFE SAVING RULES

## ENERGY ISOLATION

### (Lockout, Tagout)

- I will not attempt to repair equipment without proper Energy Control Procedures in place.
- When servicing equipment, I will confirm that all hazardous energy has been isolated and dissipated, tagged, and locked out.
- I will never enter equipment, cross barricades or remove guards unless energy control procedures have been implemented.



**I will verify isolation and zero energy before work begins.**

Workers who service equipment, perform maintenance, or clear jam-ups can be exposed to the release of hazardous energy. Some common energy sources that power our equipment are electric, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, and thermal.

The way we control hazardous energy sources in most cases is by performing Lockout Tagout (LOTO) when conducting tasks that would cause exposure to hazardous energy. If LOTO is not performed prior to these tasks, energy can be released while an employee is in the line of fire and can result in a very serious injury or fatality.

### LOCKOUT, TAGOUT STANDARD

The Control of Hazardous Energy Standard or Lockout Tagout (LOTO) Standard was developed by OSHA in response to the dangers from hazardous energy. OSHA estimates that the LOTO standard prevents approximately 50,000 injuries and 120 deaths a year.

Understanding why these standards are in place is crucial to understanding why it is important to follow the related safety practices and procedure.

Mauser Packaging Solutions is serious about always following LOTO Standards. We demonstrate our commitment to Lockout, Tagout through annual training and audits and by staying apprised of any OSHA updates to this standard.

Accidents caused by not following LOTO procedure are not sudden or surprise situations. LOTO should be the first step in starting maintenance or an unjamming process anytime energy is present..

### LOCKOUT, TAGOUT EXAMPLES

#### Jam-Ups

When a jam-up occurs and only an employee can clear the jam by putting their body in the line of fire, LOTO must be performed to prevent the release of hazardous energy. Examples include:

- Drums/totes caught on a conveyor - If the conveyor is not locked out, it may begin moving again when the jam is cleared.
- Drums caught in equipment (blaster, body roller, etc.) - If the machine, is not locked out it may start back up after jam is cleared.

#### Conveyers

Conveyers should always be locked out when performing maintenance, no matter how easy the fix. Sometimes this means figuring out how to lock out specific sections or locking out entire lines. The few minutes saved by not locking out a conveyor is not worth the potential risk for injury or death.

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### Group Activity

Break into groups and review the scenario below. This scenario is a real life example of a serious injury that occurred at a sanitary landfill in 2019. Details pertaining to this event have been made public by OSHA as a learning resource. Review the scenario below and discuss the following questions in small groups.

### SCENARIO

A 38-year-old worker at a county sanitary landfill died after falling into a large trash compactor used to bale cardboard for recycling. The cardboard was lifted 20 feet by a belt conveyor and fed through a 20-inch by 44-inch opening into a hopper. The hopper had automatic controls that activated the baler when enough material collected in the baling chamber. When the baler was activated,



material in the chamber was compressed by a ram that entered the chamber from the side. Excess material above the chamber was trimmed by a shearer. On the day of the incident, cardboard jammed at the conveyor discharge opening. Without stopping, de-energizing, or locking out the equipment, the victim rode the conveyor up to the discharge opening to clear the jam. He fell into the hopper and the baling cycle was automatically activated, amputating his legs. The victim bled to death before he could be removed from the machine.

### DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Did the worker follow LOTO procedures?
- How does LOTO procedures apply to unjamming?
- Can you think of instances in your facilities where conveyors are under power?
- Have you seen anyone intervene to unjam a conveyor without shutting down power and conducting LOTO?
- Do you understand that control systems can't see the difference between material and you the worker?

**“I will verify isolation and zero energy before work begins.”**