MACHINE GUARDING – SAFETY BULLETIN Don't tamper with your safety!



Every year workers and students who operate and maintain machinery suffer amputations, lacerations, crushing injuries and abrasions.

Despite the potential for injury and death, many still do not take machine hazards and machine guarding seriously. Often, machine guards thought to interfere with production are tampered with or removed or unintentionally left off machines after repair work is done. Situations like these, employees and students are unnecessarily exposed to hazards that can mangle or kill them.

What You Can Do

- ➤ Be able to identify various machine guards and how they protect you.
- ➤ Understand your role as an instructor. It is your responsibility to know how guards work and how to keep them in good working condition.
- ➤ Know who is permitted to remove a safeguard and under what circumstances it is okay to remove it.
- ➤ Know who to contact if a safeguard is damaged, missing, provides inadequate protections or is itself a hazard.
- ➤ Be aware of disciplinary actions and risks you may face as a result of tampering or removing a safeguard, such as: not inspecting the machine before using it; or not following machine safety procedures.
- ➤ Have a safety-first attitude toward machinery and respect the work it does as well as the injuries it can cause.

Don't Get Too Comfortable

Machine safeguarding is not just a one-time action where a guard is installed and never worried about again. Instead, machine safety requires your constant commitment and attention. Take time to ensure the safety of your and your students.