

Toolbox

Safety Series



MACHINE TOOL SAFETY

Machine tool injuries present some of the most serious problems in industry. By definition machine tools include all power-driven machines, which are not hand portable. These stationary tools are used to shape or form materials by cutting, impact, pressure, electrical techniques, or a combination of these methods. Grinders, buffers, and similar machines are included in this definition.

Safe operation of machine of machine tools requires that these rules be practiced if we are to eliminate injury.

- Operation, adjustment, and repair of any machine tool must be restricted to experienced, trained personnel or apprentices under close supervision.
- Safe work procedures must be established, and any short cuts or chance-taking prohibited.
- Supervisors must be responsible for the enforcement of safe operation and work procedures.
- New equipment should be inspected, and safety innovations made before using the equipment. So plan ahead.

All machines should be locked and tagged out before any repairs or maintenance begins.

Follow these general rules for the safe operation of machine tools:

- Never leave machine tools running unattended.
- Don't wear jewelry or loose fitting clothes such as long sleeves, shirt cuffs or ties. Keep long hair covered with safety caps.
- Wear eye protection and encourage others who are around machine tools to wear eye protection too.
- Throwing refuse or spitting in coolant should never be allowed. This can spread disease.
- Manual adjusting and gauging are only done when the machine is stopped.
- Use brushes, vacuum equipment, or special tools to remove chips.
- Use the proper hand tools.

Good housekeeping can help to establish good habits in machine operation.

Do not use high-pressure compressed air to blow chips from machines or worker's clothing. Use a brush for chip removal. Compressed air can damage ears and eyes.

Since most machine operations involve the handling of heavy stock or heavy machine parts, such as face plates, chunks, etc., safety shoes should be worn.

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LEADER NOTES

Objective: Machine tool injuries present some of the most serious problems in industry. By definition machine tools include all power-driven machines which are not hand portable. Grinders, buffers, and similar machines are included in this definition.

Potential Injuries: Safe operation of machine tools requires that rules be practiced if we are to eliminate injuries such as cuts, lacerations, punctures or possibly amputations.

THE TALK – POINTS TO COVER

- Operation, adjustment, and repair of any machine tool must be restricted to only experienced and trained personnel or apprentices under close supervision.
- Safe work procedures must be established, and short cuts and chance-taking prohibited.
- Supervisors must be responsible for the enforcement of safe operation and work procedures.
- All machines should be locked and tagged out before any repairs or maintenance begin.
- Follow these general rules for safe operation of machine tools:
 - Never leave machine tools running unattended.
 - Don't wear jewelry or loose fitting clothes such as long sleeves, shirt cuffs or ties. Keep long hair covered with safety caps.
 - Wear eye protection for yourself and encourage others to do so around machine tools.
 - Throwing refuse or spitting in coolant should not be allowed and may spread disease.
 - Manual adjusting and gauging are only done while the machine is stopped.
 - Use brushes, vacuum equipment, or special tools to remove chips.
- Do not use high-pressure compressed air to blow chips from machines or worker's clothing. Use a brush for chip removal. Compressed air can damage ears and eyes.
- Since most machine operations involve the handling of heavy stock or heavy machine parts, safety shoes should be worn.

