



## Compliance – Resource Bulletin

# Lockout Tagout

### Overview:

Lockout Tagout is a set of procedures and rules that must be used to shut down equipment and prevent the release of energy so that maintenance can be performed on the equipment. Lockout refers to using a lockout device to ensure that the machine it is placed on cannot be used during maintenance. Tagout refers to placing a tag on the machine to show that employees cannot use the machine until the servicing is complete and the tag has been removed. This tag is used in conjunction with a lockout device because the lockout device does not have the warning labeled on it. The tag assures that employees are aware of what is happening with the machine. (29 CFR 1910.147(b))

This process is essential for employees working with machinery that has the risk of harming employees due to electric shock. Dangerous energy release is the cause of about 10 percent of accidents for employees working with this type of equipment, so properly understanding and using this system is very beneficial. Lockout Tagout is regulated by OSHA through the standard for The Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout). It is the employer's responsibility to protect workers by implementing this program and assuring that employees are properly trained (29 CFR 1910.147). This standard only applies to the control of energy during servicing and maintenance of machines and equipment. Employers should have other rules and regulations for using machines in other situations. (29 CFR 1910.147 (a)(2)(i))

Outlined in this standard are ways of controlling various hazardous forms of energy, including: electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, and thermal. While this standard offers various safety precautions and practices, it is important for employees to be diligent in following these rules, and the additional rules of their employer, to maintain and assure a safe working environment.

### Resources:

**OSHA Standard 1910.147:** (Free) <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.147>

**Lockout Tagout Tutorial:** (Free) <https://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/lototraining/tutorial/tu-overvw.html>

**Lockout/Tagout Procedure:** (Free) <https://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/lototraining/hottopics/ht-gloto-3-1.html>



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### (Lockout Tagout Continued)

#### Design of Lockout Tagout Tags:

- Lockout Tagout devices must be designed to withstand the environment to which they are exposed. This includes various weather conditions. Tags must be able to withstand corrosive environments (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(ii)(A)(1-3))
- Lockout devices must be strong enough to prevent removal without use of excessive force or tools (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(ii)(C)(1))
- Tagout devices need to be strong enough to prevent accidental removal (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(ii)(A)(2)) and must meet the following additional qualifications:
  - Non-reusable material
  - Attachable by hand and self-locking
  - Non-releasable with a minimum unlocking strength of no less than 50 pounds
  - Must be equivalent to a one-piece, all environment-tolerant nylon cable tie (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(ii)(C)(2))
  - Must be identifiable as to who placed the device (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(ii)(D))
  - Provide a warning against hazardous conditions if the machine is energized, and include a legend such as: Do Not Start. Do Not Open. Do Not Close. Do Not Energize. Do Not Operate. (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(iii))
  - Must be standardized within the facility. Either by color, shape, or size. Also standardized in print and format. (29 CFR 1910.147(c)(5)(ii)(B))



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For Lockout Tagout Tags visit our store: <https://www.compliancesigns.com/Safety-tags.shtml>