Electrical Hazards, Machine Guards and Hazardous Energy

TOPIC 06 / WRITTEN LESSON



Recognize exposure and route electrical or servicing work to qualified, authorized people.

Look for the exposure

Review electrical equipment condition, accessible protective features, appropriate use and damage reporting under the applicable rules. Do not turn this lesson into wiring instructions or a live test. Damaged equipment, exposed energized parts or a defeated protective feature require the workplace's protective response and competent evaluation.

Separate normal operation from servicing

Machine guards protect against hazards during the relevant work. A stopped control or an emergency-stop button is not proof that every energy source is isolated. Electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, gravity or stored energy can matter. This awareness lesson does not supply machine-specific isolation steps.

Use the correct handoff

Keep people outside the danger zone and route servicing to the trained authorized person under the applicable energy-control procedure. Follow the established restrictions on locks and tags. Do not enter, test, remove a guard, bypass an interlock or remove another person's device as a meeting exercise.

Review changes and return to service

An attachment, repair, changed assignment or shift handoff can affect the risk. Use the site's authorized process and verify that the required protective condition and communication are established. Keep equipment-specific records separate from the general academy completion record.

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TOPIC 06 / INSPECTION AND EVIDENCE



What an inspector may review

- Electrical condition and safe use
- Required guards and protective features
- Applicable energy-control program, procedure and training
- Authorized servicing and formal handoffs

Records and evidence to locate

- Equipment concern and isolation-of-use record
- Applicable procedure reference
- Qualified/authorized role and training evidence
- Repair/verification and return-to-service authorization

Typical gaps to correct

- Damaged electrical equipment left in use
- Missing or defeated guards
- Servicing based only on a stop button or verbal assurance

Worked example - fictional Harbor Supply

A stopped packing machine has a jam. A worker proposes reaching in because the motor is quiet.

The worker remains outside the danger zone and reports the condition. The task goes to the authorized person and applicable machine-specific procedure. Silence and a stopped indicator do not establish control of stored or other hazardous energy.

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TOPIC 06 / FACILITATOR KIT



Before the meeting

Choose a relevant, safe example; check the current rules and site procedure. Review open hazards, recent investigations and the prevention program. Arrange language or accessibility support.

0-3

State the topic, review previous corrective actions, and invite worker observations without retaliation.

3-10

Use the lesson and the worked example. Ask workers to identify the exposure, the control and the responsible person.

10-17

Run a document-only handoff scenario. Identify the safe reporting route, authorized role and procedure reference without touching or operating equipment.

17-20

Use the teach-back questions. Record actual attendees and topics, assign actions and a verification date. This 20-minute agenda is a suggested teaching plan, not a universal meeting-frequency rule.

Teach-back discussion

- Does stopped mean isolated?
- Who is authorized for this task?
- What restriction remains during a shift handoff?

Use actual attendees and topics in the meeting record. Do not enter private medical details here or treat a fictional exercise as proof of a real correction.

Official references

WAC 296-800-280: basic electrical rules

WAC 296-806: machine safety

WAC 296-803: hazardous energy control

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TOPIC 06 / FILLABLE WORKPLACE EXERCISE



Use the fictional example first. Keep real personnel and medical records in your approved secure systems.

Site / department / task

Actual observation and evidence reference

Workers consulted / language needs

Existing control and observed gap

Protective action and responsible person

Due date / verification method

What changed / remaining concern / follow-up date

Explain it back

Does stopped mean isolated?

Who is authorized for this task?

What restriction remains during a shift handoff?