



## MACHINE HAZARDS

### WHAT DO WE MEAN BY 'MACHINE HAZARDS'?

- Exposure to moving parts that can lead to injuries
- Exposure to hazardous energy that could cause injury, including electrical, thermal, chemical, pneumatic, hydraulic, mechanical and gravitational

### WHY PREVENT MACHINE HAZARDS?

- Every year, approximately 2,500 people are injured because of machine-related incidents, accounting for almost 6% of all lost-time injuries in Ontario\*
- Injuries can be life altering and have severe consequences
- Injuries impact workers, coworkers, and family
- Equipment is unforgiving and incidents can happen quickly

### WHAT THE LAW SAYS

- Workplace machines safety law in Ontario is based on the Occupational Health and Safety Act (OHSA).
- OHSA requires that employers take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances to protect workers. Sections 25, 27, and 28 refer to duties and responsibilities of employers, supervisors, and workers.

\*Source: By the Numbers: 2013 WSIB Statistical Report

### STEP ONE: RAISE AWARENESS (RECOGNITION)

#### WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW

- All relevant hazards and risks
- Thorough understanding of the machine's life cycle and its operation
- Associated hazards and safeguarding requirements

#### WHAT WE SHOULD LOOK FOR

- Accessible moving parts
- Condition of machine
- Exposures, hidden access, reaching over, bypassed interlocks, pinch/nip points, points where operator interacts with machines
- Awkward operations and unsafe behaviour around equipment
- Health condition of worker

## MACHINE HAZARDS RISK FACTORS

Hazardous Energy ▪ Hot Surfaces ▪ Moving Parts  
Sharp Edges ▪ Chemical Exposure

## MACHINE HAZARDS

### STEP TWO: TAKE STEPS TO PREVENT MACHINE HAZARDS IN OUR WORKPLACE (CONTROLS)

- Conduct pre-start health and safety reviews as required
- Conduct risk assessments
- Provide education and training
- Use proper safeguarding controls to reduce risk; e.g. presence-sensing safety devices, fixed barriers, emergency stops, and safety signs
- Follow lock-out procedures
- Conduct pre-shift checks
- Ensure that the machine is well maintained at all times
- Wear personal protective equipment
- Understand safe practices including emergency procedures



### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Click on titles to access resources.

1. Machine Guarding
2. Machine Safety
3. Safety Finger
4. Lockout

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 Workplace Safety & Prevention Services®

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