

MONTHLY SAFETY FOCUS

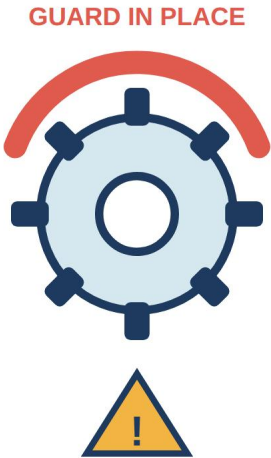
MACHINE GUARDING & HAND SAFETY

Grinders, presses, drill presses, rotating shafts — the machine doesn't know your hand is there. Guards on, hands out of the line of fire.

#10

OSHA TOP-10 MOST-CITED:
MACHINE GUARDING (FY2025)

GUARDS SAVE HANDS



1

GUARDS STAY ON

Missing, damaged, or 'temporarily' off = **machine out of service until fixed**. Grinders: work rest within 1/8", tongue guard within 1/4", ring-test every new wheel. (29 CFR 1910.212 / .215)

2

RIGHT GLOVE, RIGHT JOB

Cut-resistant for metal and blades, nitrile for fluids, leather for rough handling. **NO gloves near rotating parts** — a glove caught in a chuck takes the hand with it. (29 CFR 1910.138)

3

HANDS OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE

Pinch points, closing gaps, spring-loaded parts. Use push sticks, hooks, and tools — not fingers. Before every reach, ask: **if this slips or cycles, where does my hand go?**



IF THE GUARD IS OFF, THE MACHINE IS OFF

Never reach into, around, or past a guard on anything that can move. Tag it out and tell the Shop or Terminal Manager.

THIS MONTH, TALK ABOUT

- Walk the shop: check every grinder's work-rest and tongue-guard gap.
- Glove rules by task — and the no-glove zone around rotating equipment.
- Pinch points on trailer work: hatches, valves, landing gear, fifth wheels.
- Damaged guard: how to tag it and who to tell, today.

BEFORE THE MACHINE STARTS

- ✓ All guards in place and secure
- ✓ Grinder: rest 1/8", tongue 1/4", wheel ring-tested
- ✓ Right glove for the task — none near rotating parts
- ✓ Loose sleeves, strings, jewelry — off
- ✓ Damaged guard = tagged out, manager told

SCAN TO SIGN IN

Maintenance Safety Focus • October 2026 • Machine Guarding & Hand Safety

Sign the stand-down roster from your phone • ali-dashboards.58jx6jpbrs.workers.dev



INSTRUCTOR OUTLINE — MACHINE GUARDING & HAND SAFETY

For the Shop or
Terminal Manager
10–15 minutes • read,
don't recite

BEFORE YOU START

- Before the meeting, check every grinder in the shop — note any with a bad work-rest or tongue-guard gap.
- Bring three gloves: cut-resistant, nitrile, leather — quiz the crew on which goes with what.
- Identify one pinch point on a trailer in the yard to point at.

TALKING POINTS

1

WHY GUARDS EXIST

Machine guarding sits in OSHA's top-10 most-cited list because guards keep getting removed 'just for this one job.' The machine doesn't know your hand is there — the guard is the only thing that does.

2

GRINDER MATH

Work rest within 1/8 inch, tongue guard within 1/4 inch, ring-test every wheel before mounting. A wheel that shatters at 3,600 RPM is shrapnel — those two gaps are what keep your hands and face out of it.

3

GLOVES ARE TASK EQUIPMENT

Cut-resistant for blades and sheet metal. Nitrile for fluids and chemicals. Leather for rough material. And none of them near a rotating chuck, shaft, or wheel — a caught glove pulls the whole hand in.

4

THE LINE-OF-FIRE QUESTION

Before every reach: if this slips, snaps, or cycles right now — where does my hand end up? Pinch points on our trailer work are everywhere: hatch lids, valve handles, landing gear, fifth wheels. Tools reach; fingers don't.

ASK THE CREW

- 1 Which machine in this shop is most often run with a guard loose or missing?
- 2 What's the worst pinch point on a tank trailer — and how do you work around it?
- 3 Anyone had a glove or sleeve grabbed by something spinning? What saved you?
- 4 What job here still gets done with fingers where a tool should be?

GUARDS ON. RIGHT GLOVE. HANDS OUT OF THE LINE OF FIRE.

Everyone signs the Stand-Down Roster before leaving. File the signed roster with this month's safety records (Policy 2-1.0 §6).