



POWER EQUIPMENT SAFETY

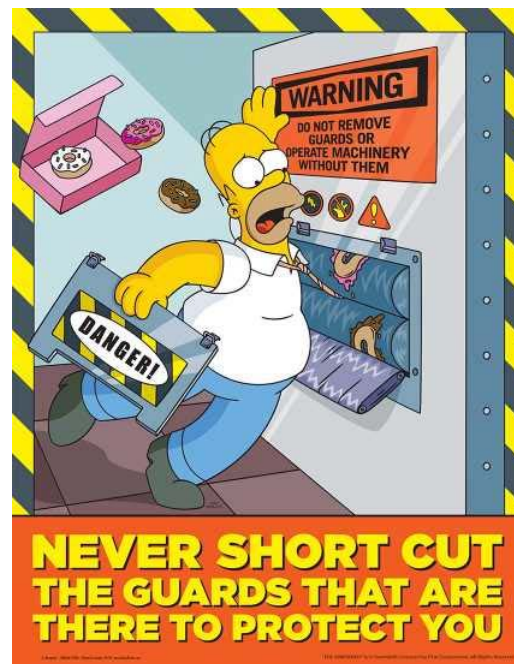
TOOLBOX TALK SERIES – EQUIPMENT GUARDING

Week 1 and Week 2 – January 2022

OSHA requires any part of a machine that could cause injury to be safeguarded. Areas that require guards include moving shafts, pulleys, spindles, drums, chains, belts, sprockets and flywheels. Safeguards are required for your safety and should not be defeated or removed.

Types of Guards

- Fixed Guards – guards that are fixed to the machine and typically do not require routine adjustment (i.e. fan cage).
- Self-Adjusting Guards – guards that automatically adjust to material being fed (i.e. circular saw guard).
- Adjustable Guards – guards that are manually adjusted (i.e. bench grinder).
- Interlocking Guards – guards that are required to be in place for a piece of equipment to operate (i.e. industrial mixer guard).



Tips to Protect Yourself:

- Receive training on any piece of equipment prior to operation. You should be familiar with emergency shutdown procedures, operating procedures and safety features present on the equipment.
- Inspect any piece of equipment for proper guarding prior to utilizing the equipment. If guards are broken or not present, lock out the equipment and report it to your supervisor.
- Never use cheater bars or devices meant to defeat guards.
- When utilizing devices with adjustable guards, ensure that the guard is adjusted to the proper distance. If you are not sure, ask!

