

Waterloo Vol Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

LOCK OUT/TAG OUT

Purpose:

This procedure establishes the minimum requirements for the lockout of energy isolating devices whenever maintenance or servicing is done on machines or equipment. It shall be used to ensure that the machine or equipment is stopped, isolated from all potentially hazardous energy sources and locked out before employees perform any servicing or maintenance where the unexpected energization or start-up of the machine or equipment or release of stored energy could cause injury.

All members of Waterloo Vol. Fire Department are required to comply with the restrictions and limitations imposed upon them during the use of lockout. The authorized members are required to perform the lockout in accordance with this procedure. All employees, upon observing a machine or piece of equipment which is locked out to perform servicing or maintenance shall not attempt to start, energize, or use that machine or equipment.

Scope:

The follow is the sequence of events that will occur should a member of the Waterloo Vol. Fire Department find a piece of equipment that meets the criteria as defined above.

1. Notify all affected members that servicing or maintenance is required on a machine or equipment and that the machine or equipment must be down or rendered out of service and locked out to perform the servicing or maintenance.
2. The authorized members of Waterloo Vol. Fire Department shall refer to the organizations procedure to identify the type and magnitude of the energy that the machine or equipment utilizes, shall understand the hazards of the energy, and shall know the methods to control the energy.
3. If the machine or equipment is operating, shut it down by the normal stopping procedure. (Depress the stop button, open switch, close valve, etc.)

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4. De-activate the energy isolating device(s) so that the machine or equipment is isolated from the energy source(s).
5. Lock out the energy isolating device(s) with assigned individual lock(s).
6. Stored or residual energy (such as that in capacitors, springs, elevated machine members, rotating flywheels, hydraulic systems, and air, gas, steam, or water pressure, etc.) must be dissipated or restrained by methods such as grounding, repositioning, blocking, bleeding down, etc.
7. Ensure that the equipment is disconnected from the energy source(s) by first checking that no personnel are exposed, then verify the isolation fo the equipment by operating the push button or other normal operating control(s) or by testing to make certain the equipment will not operate.
Caution: Return operating control(s) to neutral or “off” position after verifying the isolation of the equipment.
8. The machine or equipment is now locked out.

Restoring Equipment to Service:

When the servicing or maintenance is completed and the machine or equipment is ready to return to normal operating condition, the following steps shall be taken:

1. Check the machine or equipment and the immediate area around the machine to ensure the nonessential items have been removed and that the machine or equipment components are operationally intact.
2. Check the work area to ensure that all employees have been safely positioned or removed from the area.
3. Verify that the controls are in neutral.
4. Remove the lockout devise and reenergize the machine or equipment.
Note: The removal of some forms of blocking may require re-energization of the machine before safe removal.
5. Notify members that the servicing or maintenance is completed and the machine or equipment is ready for use.