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POLICY:

USM EQUIPMENT/MACHINE SAFEGUARDING

Statement of Purpose:

The overall purpose of this policy is to ensure proper and adequate safety protection for USM personnel using power equipment/tools while performing daily work tasks. To be included are both stationery power equipment and portable power tools.

1.0 Scope

(Nothing on online policy, needs to be written)

2.0 State Law and Federal Mandates

General Industry CFR 29 (Subpart O)

1. OSHA 1910.212 General Requirements for all Machines.
2. OSHA 1910.213 Woodworking Machines.
6. OSHA 1910.244 Other Portable Tools and Equipment.
7. OSHA 1925.300 General Requirements (Tools and Hand Power).
10. OSHA 1925.304 Woodworking Tools.

3.0 Hazard Alert

When using power equipment and portable power hand tools, hazards exist in two places.

1. Point of Operation Locations – By definition, this is the location where the processing tool comes into contact with the material being processed and shall be guarded. Recognized hazards include blades, knives, cutters, etc.
2. Power Transmission Location – By definition, this would include such locations where there exists belts/pulleys, chains/sprockets, mashing gears, etc., all of which are recognized physical hazards.

4.0 General Requirement for Machine Guards

Guards shall be affixed to the machine where possible and secured elsewhere if for any reason attachment to the machine is not possible. The guard shall be such that it does not offer an accident hazard to itself.

5.0 Employee Assistance/ Alert as to Usage

If you would like a copy of any of the standards or parts of, please contact the University Environmental Health & Safety Office for assistance or pull up the OSHA web site on your computer.

Employee Alert as to Usage:

1. When power equipment and tools are designed to accommodate safeguarding devices including guards, they shall be equipped with such safety attachments when in use. Example: Portable circular saw has a self-adjusting guard; it must be in place and working as designed by the manufacturer.

2. Before using equipment/tools that have guards, be sure that they are attached correctly, secure, in good maintenance, and working according to design. Note: Periodic maintenance is necessary.

3. When a guard is broken do not use the machine, equipment, or tool; tag it out of use. Note: The item should be put back in service until the repair has been completed.

4. There are some machine process applications that necessitate the removal of guards in order to do the machining but the stock must be safely secured during the process as well as the operator being safely protected at point of operation. Example: The use of safely designed jig/fixture attached securely during the process.