

De-energization and Lockout*

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations (OHSR) Part 10, “De-energization and Lockout,” gives the general requirement that if the unexpected energization or startup of machinery or equipment or the unexpected release of an energy source could cause injury, the energy source must be isolated and effectively controlled. Energy source means any electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, thermal, or other source of energy of potential harm to workers.

When working on equipment or machines, we must remove hazardous energy sources (de-energization). We also need to prevent the unexpected startup of the machinery or equipment by locking it out (lockout). OHSR Part 10 prescribes when lockout is and is not required, lockout procedures, worker responsibilities, group lockout procedures, etc.



Associated risk

When working on machinery or equipment, you must identify the energy sources and the energy isolating devices (switches, valves, etc.). An energy isolating device is a device that physically prevents the transmission or release of an energy source to machinery or equipment. Some machinery or equipment may have more than one energy isolating device.

Workers, supervisors, and managers must be trained on and follow the requirement of OHSR Part 10. The employer must provide the necessary locks, tags, safety hasps, lockout devices, and other equipment to safely lockout machinery or equipment. You must develop and follow safe work procedures.



Preventative next steps

Follow these five basic steps to de-energization and lockout:

1. Identify the machinery or equipment that needs to be locked out.
2. Shut off the machinery or equipment.
3. Identify and de-energize all hazardous energy sources.
4. Apply a personal lock to each energy-isolating device for each hazardous energy source.
5. Verify the effectiveness of the de-energization and lockout process.*

Once the machinery or equipment is locked out, only the worker who applied the personal lock should remove it. The worker should remove their personal lock at the completion of the job or when passing the job to another worker. This second worker will need to install their personal lock before starting work.

Only a supervisor or manager can remove another worker's lock, and they must follow their forced lock-removal process as per OHSR 10.8.



For additional resources visit:

CSA Standard Z460:20 [Control of hazardous energy - Lockout and other methods](#)
WorkSafeBC manual [Controlling Hazardous Energy: De-Energization and Lockout](#)
OHSR Part 10 [De-energization and Lockout](#)

* WorkSafeBC manual Controlling Hazardous Energy: De-Energization and Lockout P 22

De-energization and Lockout Toolbox Talk

Name of Facilitator: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____ Date: _____

Employee feedback/questions/recommendations

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Workers who attended

Name	Initial	Name	Initial
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
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_____	_____	_____	_____

Key Talking Points (Facilitator Notes)