

LOCK OR TAG – DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?

Understanding Your LOTO Devices Before You Use Them

A lock and a tag are not the same thing, and they do not offer the same level of protection. Understanding the difference before you start any job could be the difference between going home safe and a life-changing injury.



LOCKOUT (LOCK)

PHYSICAL DEVICE – PADLOCK PLACED ON ENERGY ISOLATING DEVICE

PREVENTS THE MACHINE FROM BEING RE-ENERGIZED

ONLY THE WORKER WHO APPLIED THE LOCK CAN REMOVE IT

OSHA'S PREFERRED METHOD

YOUR PERSONAL PADLOCK – YOU HOLD THE ONLY KEY



TAGOUT (TAG)

WARNING TAG ATTACHED TO ENERGY ISOLATING DEVICE

WARNS OTHERS **NOT TO RESTART**

EASIER TO REMOVE

USED ONLY WHEN A LOCK CANNOT BE ATTACHED

MUST DISPLAY **NAME, DATE, AND REASON**

WHY THIS MATTERS TO YOU ON THE JOB

Most equipment in our facilities can and should be locked out. A tag alone is **not** a physical barrier.

OSHA requires lockout whenever it is physically possible.

IF YOU SEE A TAG ON A MACHINE

1 STOP

A tag means the equipment is being serviced or unsafe.

2 READ THE TAG

Check who placed it, when, and why.

3 NEVER REMOVE IT

Removing someone else's LOTO device is a serious safety violation.

4 WHEN IN DOUBT – ASK

If you're unsure the machine is safe, stop and notify your supervisor.



Before your next job, make sure you have your personal lock!