Machine Guarding and E-Stops Self-Assessment

Location / Building:	
Shop / Rm #:	
Equipment/Machinery Type:	
Inspection Completed By:	
Inspection Date:	

Machine Guarding Inspection	OK	Not OK	N/A	Corrective Action	Date Corrected
Are equipment guards in place and used as intended?					
Do the safeguards provided meet the minimum OSHA requirements? **(See requirements below)**					
Guards are firmly secured and not easily removable					
Point-of-operation hazards properly guarded?					
Machinery/equipment anchored to prevent movement?					
Power transmission apparatus properly guarded (gears, sprockets, pulleys, etc.)?					
Rotating parts hazards properly guarded?					
Guards prevent hand/fingers from reaching point-of-operation?					

Emergency Stops	OK	Not OK	N/A	Corrective Action	Date Corrected
E-stop device installed on equipment, labeled, and easily identified?					
E-stop located within reach of machine operator?					
Anti-Restart Devices provided to prevent restart after power failure?					

Miscellaneous	Yes	No	Comments
Have operators been trained on where safeguards are located, what hazards they protect against, under what circumstances a guard can be removed and what procedure to follow if they notice guards that are missing, damaged or inadequate?			
Can the existing safeguards be improved?			
Could you suggest a more practical and effective safeguard if there are currently no guards?			

Comments:

OSHA Standards require that machine guards follow these minimum general requirements:

1) Prevent contact: The safeguard must prevent hands, arms, and any other part of a worker's body from making contact with dangerous moving parts. A good safeguarding system eliminates the possibility of the operator or another worker placing parts of their bodies near hazardous moving parts.

2) **Secure guard**: Workers should not be able to easily remove or tamper with the safeguard. Guards and safety devices should be made of durable material that will withstand the conditions of normal use. They must be firmly secured to the machine.

3) **Protect from falling objects**: The safeguard should ensure that no objects can fall into moving parts. A small tool which is dropped into a cycling machine could easily become a projectile that could strike and injure someone.

4) **Create no new hazards**: A safeguard defeats its own purpose if it creates a hazard of its own such as a shear point, a jagged edge. The edges of guards, for instance, should be rolled or bolted in such a way that they eliminate sharp edges.

5) **Create no interference**: Any safeguard should not be overridden or disregarded to do a job quickly. Proper safeguarding can actually enhance efficiency and ensure worker safety. When you feel safe on the job you are more relaxed and less apprehensive about doing your job.

6) **Allow safe lubrication**: If possible, one should be able to lubricate the machine without removing the safeguards. Locating oil reservoirs outside the guard, with a line leading to the lubrication point, will reduce the need for the operator or maintenance worker to enter the hazardous area.