Why do people die in lockout/tagout accidents?

People die because they don’t do the lockout/tagout.

624 Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) Fatalities

- **70% of Fatalities**
  - LOTO Not Attempted
  - Victim did not even try to do the lockout/tagout.

- **24%** unknown cause

- **5% of Fatalities**
  - LOTO Attempt Failed
  - Victim did the LOTO incorrectly (locked out the wrong machine or circuit).

- **1% of Fatalities**
  - Mechanical Failure
  - Victim did the LOTO correctly, but the machine started anyway (mechanical fault allowed power into the machine).

Lockout/tagout saves lives when people do it.
In 1990, the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) passed a Lockout/Tagout regulation.

Dr Bulzacchelli studied the rates of LOTO-related fatalities before the OSHA regulation was imposed and after the OSHA regulation was imposed. The result? A very small increase in LOTO-related fatalities AFTER the OSHA regulation was imposed. Dr Bulzacchelli concluded, “There is no evidence that the lockout/tagout standard decreased fatality rates....”


http://www.experts.scival.com/jhu/pubDetail.asp?t=p&m&id=17916891&n=Daniel+Webster&u_id=970

Study of Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) Fatalities

Study details:
- analysis of OSHA accident investigation reports
- studied only fatalities involving lockout/tagout
- 624 total LOTO fatalities
- U.S. manufacturing companies
- 1984 to 1997


Talking Points - Lockout/Tagout

Where are we NOT doing LOTO and eventually someone is going to get hurt?

Can we make our lockout/tagout procedures faster and easier?

When we see someone working without LOTO, do we say something?

- On average, employees “say something” only 40% of the time they see something unsafe.
- Are we more or less than this 40%?

The main point of this research:

- 70% of the people who die in lockout/tagout accidents
- did not even try to do the LOTO

LOTO may be a hassle, but it’s better than this.

Photo Details

"Safety Photos of the Year: ’Why Lock-Out, Tag-Out is Vitally Important’”
EHS Safety News America
Jack Benton
http://ehssafetynews.wordpress.com/?s=safety+photo&submit=Search

Regulations Are Not Working

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