Why is Machine Guarding Important?
Protects the operator and others in the machine area from hazards that are created by:
- Point of operation
- In-running nip points
- Rotating parts
- Flying chips and sparks.

Examples of Machines Requiring Point of Operation Guarding
- Shears
- Power Saws
- Jointers
- Power Presses
- Milling Machines
- Alligator Shears
- Forming Rolls and Calendars

Machine Guard Requirements
- Prevents contact with employees
- Secured to the machine
- Creates no new hazards
- Creates no other interference
- Protects from falling/flying objects

Ways to Maximize Worker Safety
- Always be sure that moving mechanisms are clear of people and objects
- Be sure that workers are not wearing any jewelry or loose clothing or hair that could get snagged in the machine
- Keep an eye on overhead moving parts, like pulleys, for potential hazards
- Check that guards are in place at all points where you could contact moving parts before turning the machine on
- Be aware of how to turn power on and off if you should have to do so quickly
- Read the manufacturer’s instructions on how to operate the machine safely and correctly
- Feed material into the machine with push sticks, not your hands
- Take it easy. Rushing through a job is one of the major causes of accidents
- Make sure maintenance is performed when required. If you think your equipment might have missed its scheduled maintenance let your supervisor know.
- Use lockout/tagout procedures when a machine needs repair or maintenance. Turn the machine and the power to the machine off and tag it so that no one tries to use it.
Machine Guard Safety Toolbox Talk

Discussion Date: ___________

Supervisor: _________________

Attendees: _________________
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