


WIETA				
	Code Principle	Safe and Healthy Work Environment	Date	April 2016
	Subject	Machine Guarding	Internal Ref	03.07(a)
	Legal reference	General Machinery Regulation 3 and Driven Machinery Regulation 2		

Legal requirements pertaining to safeguarding of machinery


General Machinery regulation 3 – Safeguarding of Machinery

- (1) Every employer or user of machinery shall—
- (a) ensure that all machinery used by him, is suitable for the purpose for which it is used, and that it is installed, operated and maintained in such a manner as to prevent the exposure of persons to hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions or circumstances;
 - (b) in particular cause every exposed and dangerous part of machinery which is within the normal reach of a person to be effectively safeguarded by means of insulation, fencing, screening or guarding, except where an inspector has granted written permission for the omission of such safeguarding;
 - (c) ensure that all safety equipment is kept in a good working condition and is properly used; and
 - (d) ensure that the quality of material used in, and the construction, of the machinery or safety equipment is suitable for the purpose for which it was intended.
- (2) Where machinery constitutes a danger to persons, the employer or user of machinery concerned shall cause the premises in question to be enclosed, and where such premises are unattended the designated entrances to such premises shall be kept closed and locked.
- (3) Unless he has been authorised thereto by the employer or user of machinery, no person shall remove any safety equipment which relates to the machinery in question

Driven Machinery regulation 2 - Revolving Machinery

Unless moving or revolving components of machinery are in such a position or of such construction that they are as safe as they would be if were securely fenced or guarded, the user shall cause—

- (a) every shaft, pulley, wheel, gear, sprocket, coupling, collar, clutch, friction drum or similar object to be securely fenced or guarded;

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- (b) every set screw, key or bolt on revolving shafts, couplings, collars, friction drums, clutches, wheels, pulleys, gears and the like to be countersunk, enclosed or otherwise guarded;
- (c) every square projecting shaft or spindle end and every other shaft or spindle end which projects for more than a quarter of its diameter to be guarded by a cap or shroud;
- (d) every driving belt, rope or chain to be guarded; and
- (e) the underside of every overhead driving belt, rope or chain above passages or workplaces to be so guarded as to prevent a broken belt, rope or chain from falling and so injuring persons: Provided that the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply where in the opinion of an inspector no danger exists in the case of light belts due to the nature thereof and the speed of operation.

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