

Worksite: _____ Instructor: _____ Date/Time: _____

Topic C372: Jewelry

Introduction: Jewelry, like long unconstrained hair or loose clothing, presents unnecessary hazards to the employee if working around machinery or energized equipment.

Remember, looking good on the job is not nearly as important as feeling good - which is hard to do with your hand caught in a gearbox because your watch band became entangled, or with your wedding ring fused to your finger by an arc flash. Following are guidelines for wearing jewelry on the job:

Electrical Hazards and Jewelry:

- Conductive apparel - Conductive articles of jewelry and clothing (such as watch bands, bracelets, rings, key chains, necklaces, metalized aprons, cloth with conductive thread, or metal hardhats) may not be worn if they might contact exposed energized parts.
- Conductive articles may be worn if they are rendered non-conductive by covering, wrapping, or other insulating means. However, it is usually easier, quicker, and safer to just remove the articles. Do not store conductive articles in your pocket if working near energized electrical equipment.
- For personnel working near energized parts and/or equipment, metal jewelry on the job increases the hazard of exposure to arc flash.

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Mechanical Hazards and Jewelry:

Jewelry, long unconstrained hair, or loose clothing on the job exposes the worker to the risk of entanglement with power tools, machinery, and equipment. Special care, such as removing and storing jewelry, tying back or covering long hair, and not wearing or taping loose clothing must be taken around the following types of equipment:

- Machines with a belt driven wheel and pulley or chain and sprocket assemblies.
- Machines with any rotating parts or self-feed mechanisms.
- Conveyor equipment with rollers and thick rubber or hinged metal traveling belts (especially around the power-drive mechanisms where large gear-drives, turning shafts, and carriage blocks are located).
- Hoisting and lifting equipment presents many hazards for employees wearing jewelry, long hair, or loose clothing. Running cables, turning hoist drums or winches, turning bearings, shafts, gears, rollers, sprockets, and hook pulley blocks can easily catch and entangle any loose or dangling item.

Conclusion: Every year fingers and hands are needlessly lost because of jewelry worn on the job. Unless your job never takes you in the vicinity of moving machinery or energized electrical parts, be safe and leave the jewelry at home, in your vehicle, or in your locker.

Also remember to tie back and constrain long hair, and wear clothing which will not pose a hazard of entanglement.

Employee Attendance: (Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)

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_____	_____	_____
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These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.