

Who is involved in Lockout/Tagout?

There are three categories of workers involved in Lockout/ Tagout:

Authorized Employees are workers who are specifically permitted to perform lockout and/or tagout while servicing or maintaining equipment. Authorized employees must possess the knowledge and skills necessary for the safe application, use, and removal of energy controls. They are trained to recognize the type and amount of energy used in their machines and equipment. Only authorized employees can perform lockout/tagout procedures.

Affected Employees are workers who are either the machine operators or users, or whose work puts them in the area of the energy controls.

While they need to be trained about and familiar with lockout/tagout, they are not permitted to either engage in lockout/tagout procedures or in work on or restarting of equipment that has been locked and/or tagged out.

Other Employees, although not currently defined within the OSHA lockout/tagout standard, are workers who need to know about lockout/ tagout and to understand that they should not restart locked out or tagged out equipment, but who do not directly use or work on affected machines or equipment.

SOURCE: The control of hazardous energy (lockout/tagout) – 1910.147 [1910.147 (b)] OSHA.