

MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS NEAR ENERGIZED LINES PROGRAM

PURPOSE / SCOPE

The purpose of the Winger Companies, herein referred to as Winger, Mechanical Equipment Operations Near Energized Lines Program is to inform its employees of the power generation, transmission, and distribution installations, including related equipment for the purpose of communication or metering that are accessible only to qualified employees.

CRITICAL SAFETY COMPONENTS

"Applied loads." Mechanical equipment used to lift or move lines or other material shall be used within its maximum load rating and other design limitations for the conditions under which the work is being performed

The critical safety components of mechanical elevating and rotating equipment shall receive a thorough visual inspection before use on each shift.

Note: Critical safety components of mechanical elevating and rotating equipment are components whose failure would result in a free fall or free rotation of the boom.

VEHICULAR EQUIPMENT

No vehicular equipment having an obstructed view to the rear may be operated on off-highway jobsites where any employee is exposed to the hazards created by the moving vehicle, unless:

- ✚ The vehicle has a reverse signal alarm audible above the surrounding noise level, or
- ✚ The vehicle is backed up only when a designated employee signals that it is safe to do so.

MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT

Mechanical equipment shall be operated so that the minimum approach distances established by the employer under paragraph (l)(3)(i) are maintained from exposed energized lines and equipment. However, the insulated portion of an aerial lift operated by a qualified employee in the lift is exempt from this requirement.

A designated employee other than the equipment operator shall observe the approach distance to exposed lines and equipment and give timely warnings before the minimum approach distance required by paragraph (p)(4)(i) is reached, unless the employer can demonstrate that the operator can accurately determine that the minimum approach distance is being maintained.

EMPLOYEE PROTECTION

Each employee shall be protected from hazards that might arise from equipment contact with the energized lines. The measures used shall ensure that employees will not be exposed to hazardous differences in potential. The company should use the best available ground to minimize the time the lines or electric equipment remain

energized, bond mechanical equipment together to minimize potential differences, provide ground mats to extend areas of equipotential, and/or employ insulating protective equipment or barricades to guard against any remaining hazardous electrical potential differences.

SUMMARY

The safety and well-being of our employees is our prime concern. This can be achieved through proper pre-job planning and workplace analysis. We encourage our employees to establish and maintain a safe working environment. This program is intended to help our employees become educated and maintain a better lifestyle.

SOURCE CREDITS:

U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) www.osha.gov

DOCUMENT CONTROL:

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