General Shop Safety

General Shop Safety Precautions

- Review and understand information provided in operator manuals for shop tools and equipment with particular attention given to descriptions of safety procedures.
- Inspect all shop tools and equipment for damage or disrepair.
- If tools or equipment fail the pre-use inspections, notify your supervisor and remove the tools or equipment from service by attaching red tags that state “OUT OF SERVICE.” Complete red tags with appropriate information.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment for the shop task(s) to be performed, including eye, respiratory, and hearing protection.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry in the vicinity of rotating or cutting tools or equipment. Tie back long hair or wear under a cap.
- Clean up shop spills promptly and place warning signs for wet or slippery walking surfaces.
- Assure all shop tool and equipment safety guards are in place.
- Never use power tools or equipment with frayed power cords or damaged hydraulic/air hoses.
- Compressed gas cylinders shall always be securely fastened to a wall, dolly, or welding cart.
- Never touch energized shop tools or equipment that are wet or lying in water.
- Assure sufficient lighting is present in shop areas and promptly replace burned out light bulbs.
- Never reach behind, over, or under a drill, grinder, or saw unless the bit, wheel, or blade has stopped turning and the power has been disconnected.
- Turn off shop tools or equipment and disconnect power sources prior to cleaning or performing repairs, service, and adjustments.
- Store flammable liquids, such as gasoline and solvents, in approved safety cans/cabinets.
- Practice good housekeeping in the shop. Clean the work area upon completion of the shop task.
- Use ground-fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) approved plugs when working around areas prone to moisture.