



GRAIN BIN SAFETY - LOCK OUT TAG OUT

The grain handling industry is a high hazard industry where workers can be exposed to numerous serious and life threatening hazards. Grain bin safety starts with maintaining grain quality in storage, which means learning and practicing better stored-grain quality management, while closely monitoring grain condition. If you can prevent grain spoilage, you may be able to eliminate the leading cause of bin entry. To educate employers, employees and the public about safety in the grain handling industry, Grain Bin Safety Week is held February 17-23, 2019.

Before entering a bin, all mechanical, electrical, hydraulic and pneumatic equipment, which presents a danger to workers inside grain storage structures, must be de-energized and disconnected; locked out and tagged; blocked off or otherwise prevented from operating by other equally-effective means or methods. Discharge augers must be disconnected from power, locked out and tagged; and loading augers powered by a Power Take-Off (PTO) must be shut off and disconnected to eliminate the possibility of someone turning on the auger while someone else is in the bin.

Whenever workers perform service or maintenance on machinery or equipment, they must isolate that equipment from all energy sources. Workers must use an energy-isolating locking device to lockout equipment, or place a tagging device on it, according to established and documented procedures.



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