

## Lockout/Tagout (LOTO)

### WHAT HAPPENED

Prior to performing maintenance work on a press, workers threw the breaker disconnect handle on the loader hoist drive cabinet to de-energize the equipment. Workers followed Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) safety procedures, which utilizes a system of tags and locks to ensure that machinery is properly shut off, followed by a zero-energy verification. During the verification, it was discovered that the loader hoist was still energized. The locks were removed and the drive cabinet door was opened for inspection. It was determined that the rod on the drive handle had become loose and did not engage the breaker. The handle and rod were repaired to restore the connection, the drive cabinet door was closed, and LOTO procedures were repeated. A second zero-energy verification found that the equipment was now effectively de-energized and maintenance could proceed safely.



### CAUSAL FACTORS

Over time and with repeated use, the rod on the breaker disconnect handle became loose and would no longer engage the breaker.

### PREVENTIVE MEASURES

1. Regularly check and tighten rod handles to ensure that the breaker is de-energized when the handle is switched to the "off" position.
2. Do not assume a system is de-energized. Follow accepted LOTO procedures and zero-energy verification to ensure that it is safe to proceed with work on machinery.



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