Machine guarding

Is there an employee training program for safe methods of machine operation?

Is there adequate supervision to ensure that employees follow safe machine operating procedures?

Is there a regular program of safety inspection for machinery and equipment?

Is all machinery and equipment clean and properly maintained?

Is sufficient clearance provided around and between machines to allow for safe operation, setup, servicing, material handling, and waste removal?

Is equipment and machinery securely placed and anchored when necessary to prevent tipping or other movement that could result in personal injury?

Is there a power shutoff switch within reach of the operator’s position at each machine?

Are the noncurrent-carrying metal parts of electrically-operated machines bonded and grounded?

Are foot-operated switches guarded or arranged to prevent accidental actuation by personnel or falling objects?

Are manually operated valves and switches that control the operation of equipment and machines clearly identified and readily accessible?

Are all emergency stop buttons colored red?

Are all pulleys and belts (within seven feet of the floor or working level) properly guarded?

Are all moving chains and gears properly guarded?

Are methods provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards created at the point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips, and sparks?

Are machinery guards secured and arranged so they do not present a hazard in their use?

If special hand tools are used for placing and removing material, do they protect the operator’s hands?

Are revolving drums, barrels, and containers that are required to be guarded by an enclosure that is interlocked with the drive mechanism so that revolution cannot occur, so guarded?

Do arbors and mandrels have firm and secure bearings, and are they free from play?

Are provisions made to prevent machines from automatically starting when power is restored following a power failure or shut-down?

Are machines constructed to be free from excessive vibration when the largest size tool is mounted and run at full speed?

If machinery is cleaned with compressed air, is air pressure controlled and personal protective equipment or other safeguards used to protect operators and other workers from eye and body injury?

Are fan blades protected with a guard having openings no larger than 1⁄2 inch when operating within seven feet of the floor?

Do saws used for ripping have anti-kickback devices and spreaders?

Are radial arm saws guarded and so arranged that the cutting head will gently return to the back of the table when released?