

Mistake Proofing Techniques

Technique	Prediction/ Prevention	Detection
SHUTDOWN	<i>When a mistake is about to be made.</i>	<i>When a mistake or defect has been made.</i>
CONTROL	<i>Errors are impossible.</i>	<i>Defective items can not move on to the next step.</i>
WARNING	<i>That something is about to go wrong.</i>	<i>Immediately when something does go wrong.</i>

There are three key techniques to mistake proofing:

Shutdown

Control

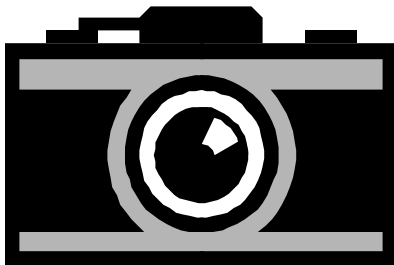
Warning

Each of these techniques can be used for both prediction and detection.

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GE Power Systems

Examples: Shutdown



PREDICTION/PREVENTION

Some cameras will not function when there is not enough light to take a picture.

DETECTION

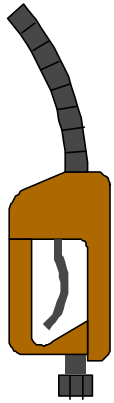
Some laundry dryers have a device that shuts them down when overheating is detected.



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Examples: Control

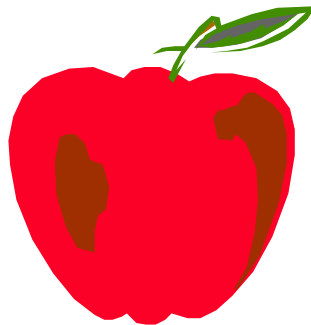


PREDICTION/PREVENTION

When gas stations still offered leaded gasoline in addition to unleaded gasoline, the nozzle on the unleaded pump and the hole for the gas tank were smaller than that for leaded gasoline.

DETECTION

A fruit orchard that takes great pride in its oversized apples, assures only the biggest apples get to customers by passing all apples through a sizer. Those that do not make it are sent to the discount outlet.



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GE Power Systems

Examples: Warning



PREDICTION/PREVENTION

Many cars have warning systems to alert the driver that not all seat belts have been fastened.

DETECTION

Smoke detectors provide a warning that smoke has been detected and that there is a possible fire.

