



# SAFETY ALERT

## Campus Incident—Electrical Shock

RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

**Date:** June 2016  
**Category:** Electrical Safety  
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### Description

An employee received an electrical shock while repairing a piece of equipment. The equipment had not been properly de-energized or locked out. A frayed energized wire came in contact with the equipment's metal housing when the machine cycled. When the employee made contact with his hand to the metal housing, he received an electrical shock. Due to the amount of electrical current, the employee had to be physically separated from the equipment by another employee.

The employee sustained injuries to the hand and was treated at the Wellness Center.

### Findings

- The frayed wire in the equipment is served by 208 volts.
- The equipment is often worked on while energized.
- Formal equipment maintenance records were not maintained.

### Root Causes

- The equipment was not de-energized or locked out.
- Staff had not received lock out tag out training.
- Equipment specific lock out tag out procedures had not been developed.
- A risk assessment had not been performed to determine hazards and safe processes.

### Recommended Actions

- Conduct lock out tag out training and develop equipment specific procedures.
- Develop and perform a risk assessment.
- Conduct job hazard assessments and training needs assessment.
- Revise the University's lock out tag out program.