OSHA CROSSTELL 21-04

AFSAS OSHA EVENT # 8592 / OSHA Inspection # 1511961

Bangor IAP (ANG) | OSHA Region: 1

26 January 2021

BLUF: Worker injury due to removal of machine guards. One finding is a "*Repeat"* due to similar violation at another Air Force installation.

Notice 1 Item 1: (Repeat-Serious)

CFR(s) Violated: "29 CFR 1910.212(a)(1): One or more methods of machine guarding was not provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, in-going nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks:

An AccuShear shear was not guarded, in the following instances:

a) Machine Shop – The lower finger guard was missing on the front of the shear.
b) Machine Shop – The rear of the shear was not guarded to prevent unauthorized access.

The U.S. Department of Air Force was previously cited for a violation of this occupational safety and health standard or its equivalent standard 1910.212(a)(1), which was contained in OSHA inspection number 1214090, citation number 1, item number 1 and was affirmed as a final order on July 12, 2017, with respect to a workplace located at Scott Air Force Base, IL, 62225."

Notice 1 Item 2 (Serious)

CFR(s) Violated: "29 CFR 1960.59(a): Each agency shall provide appropriate safety and health training for employees including specialized job safety and health training appropriate to the work performed by the employee:

Machine Shop – Employees were not trained or educated in the proper configuration of safety devices and guards on shears and equipment."

Lessons Learned:

1. Training must include all requirements to use the machine to include proper installation and adjustment of the machine guards. Regular inspections of machines will identify when machine guarding has been removed or improperly adjusted.

2. Follow-up when expecting delivery of a notice of violation. Any delay of postal delivery once the U.S. Post Office delivers it to the installation could result in missed suspense's and loss of opportunity to request an informal conference and failure to abate hazards. Request electronic delivery of materials, in addition to delivery by mail if possible, to ensure timelines are met.

Preventing Reoccurrences:

Ensure all shop machines and equipment are included in the Job Safety Training Outline (JSTO). Include all applicable hazards, procedures, safety devices and guards in worker training to ensure that employees understand on the proper operating procedures and the configuration of safety devices and guard. Document training IAW AFI 91-202.

*OSHA 3170, *Safeguarding Equipment and Protecting Employees from Amputations*, provides assistance in understanding how to protect workers from amputation hazards and lists topics that should be covered in the use of machines.
https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/osha3170.pdf