Electricity can accomplish a variety of things and make life easier. Electricity can also threaten our well being if electrical safety is absent or not properly applied. Equipment can be damaged during use and when it’s moved from one location to another. Damage can render equipment unsafe to use.

**Perform the following safety checks before energizing equipment:**

- Look for visible damage to equipment, wall disconnects, enclosures and electrical devices.
- Look for defects and missing, bent or broken plug prongs.
- Inspect external sheaths of power supply cords to ensure they are not cut, frayed, twisted, or damaged.
- Ensure the inner cores of power supply cords are not exposed where they connect to equipment, plugs and/or sockets.
- Ensure inner cores of power supply cords are not exposed or twisted along the cord’s length.
- Ensure there are no exposed, unprotected electrical conductors.
- Ensure electrical devices have proper grounding with a 3-prong plug. If a 3-prong plug is not present, ensure the equipment is double insulated and labeled as such.
- Ensure electrical tape or anything that can cover damage has not been applied to power supply cords and devices.

**Note:** If any of the above items exist, immediately tag out the item and notify maintenance, the shift mechanic and/or your supervisor.

**In Addition:**

- Switch off disconnects and equipment before connecting or disconnecting power supply cords.
- Keep power supply cords and hoses clear of walkways and equipment paths.
- Suspend power supply cords and hoses over aisles and work areas as necessary to eliminate stumbling and tripping.
- Keep power supply cords away from heat, oil, sharp edges and moving parts that can damage cord sheath and insulation.
- Use only approved extension cords with proper gauge wire for the length of cord and voltage requirements of the equipment to prevent overheating.
- Notify maintenance if a power supply cord feels more than comfortably warm.
- Never use “cheaters,” to convert 3-prong plugs into 2-prong plugs.
- Use proper lockout / tagout procedures before working “in” or “on” equipment.
- Pull the plug, not the cord when unplugging equipment. Pulling the cord causes unnecessary wear and adversely affects wiring to the plug.
- Walk all around equipment prior to moving to ensure it has been completely disconnected.
- Don’t use disconnects if they are blocked or do not have the required front access clearance.

**Verify:**

- Workers are properly trained to operate equipment,
- Guards are in place, and equipment operation complies with OFD safety procedures,
- Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is used for the work being performed,
- Workers do not wear loose gloves, clothing or jewelry while using revolving equipment,
- Workers wear hairnets to prevent hair from getting caught in moving equipment.