



## July 15 — One Missing Lock Changes Everything

While going through the lockout we realized a lock on an air valve was not put on.

We stopped, cut the seal, and fixed the lockout. We then had it second verified by customers employee and then got on the lock out.

**A lockout isn't complete until every energy source is controlled.**

**One missed lock can make the entire process unsafe.**

While completing a Lockout/Tagout walkthrough, the crew discovered that an air valve had been overlooked during the isolation process. Although the majority of the lockout had been completed correctly, one source of hazardous energy remained capable of creating a dangerous situation.

Fortunately, the missing lock was identified before maintenance began. The crew immediately corrected the lockout, verified all isolation points, and ensured the equipment was safe before starting work.

Lockout/Tagout isn't about checking boxes—it's about controlling **every** source of hazardous energy. Electrical, pneumatic, hydraulic, mechanical, thermal, and stored energy all deserve the same level of attention. Missing just one isolation point can leave employees with a false sense of security.

That's why walkthroughs and verification are such an important part of every successful lockout.

### Hazards

- Uncontrolled pneumatic energy
- Unexpected equipment movement
- Incomplete Lockout/Tagout
- False sense of security
- Serious injury or fatality

### Words of Wisdom

A lockout is only complete when **every** hazardous energy source has been identified, isolated, locked, and verified. Never assume someone else caught everything, take the time to verify it yourself.

### Pause and Think

- Besides electricity, what other hazardous energy sources should be included in a lockout?
- Why is it easy to overlook valves or secondary isolation points?
- How do walkthroughs help identify missed isolation points before work begins?
- Have you ever found something during a final verification that could have been missed?
- What can your crew do to make Lockout/Tagout verification even stronger?

### Closing Thought

One missed lock can create a false sense of safety. The best Lockout/Tagout procedures don't rely on assumptions; they rely on careful verification and teamwork to ensure every source of hazardous energy is controlled.