

NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DIVISION
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA

Standards Notice - 28

TO: All OSHA Consultants, Supervisors, Safety Officers, and Industrial Hygienists

SUBJECT: Drying Tumblers, Shakers and Washing Machines Interlocking Devices

a. Standards

1. 1910.262(cc)(1) states: Each drying tumbler, each double cylinder shaker or clothes tumbler, and each washing machine shall be equipped with an interlock device which will prevent the power operation of the inside cylinder when the outer door on the case or shell is open, and which will also prevent the outer door on the case or shell from being opened without shutting off the power. This should not prevent the movement of the inner cylinder by means of a hand operated mechanism or an "inching device."
2. 29 CFR 1910.264(c)(1)(ii) states: Each washing machine shall be equipped with an interlocking device that will prevent the inside cylinder from moving when the outer door on the case or shell is open, and will also prevent the door from being opened while the inside cylinder is in motion. This device should not prevent the movement of the inner cylinder under the action of a hand-operated mechanism or under the operation of an "inching device."
3. 29 CFR 1910.264(c)(2)(iii)(a) states: Each drying tumbler shall be equipped with an interlocking device that will prevent the inside cylinder from moving when the outer door on the case or shell is open, and also prevent the door from being opened while the inside cylinder is in motion. This device should not prevent the movement of the inner cylinder under the action of a hand-operated mechanism or under the operation of an "inching device."
4. 29 CFR 1910.264(c)(2)(iv)(b)(1) states: Each shaker or clothes tumbler of the double-cylinder type shall be equipped with an interlocking device that will prevent the inside cylinder from moving when the outer door on the case or shell is open, and also prevent the door from being opened while the inside cylinder is in motion. This device should not prevent the movement of the inner cylinder under the action of a hand-operated mechanism or under the operation of an "inching device."

b. Discussion

The standards listed under "a" require interlocking devices on the door, outer case or shell OF DRYING TUMBLERS, SHAKERS, AND WASHING MACHINES. The use of a cut off switch which cuts off the power to the inside cylinder when the door on the outer shell is opened provides adequate protection in many cases.

c. Interpretation

The use of a cut off switch operated by the opening of the door of the machine satisfies the intent of the standards stated under a, provided that the inner cylinder of the machine does not continue to rotate after the door is open in such a manner as to present a hazard to employees. In those situations in which the cylinder does continue to rotate and thereby presents a hazard after the power is shut off, an interlock

device, braking mechanism or a time delay switch would be required to protect employees from possible injury.

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