



BELT CONVEYOR GUARDING

Toll Free 1-866-300-6668

Fax (705) 487-8795

Website - www.conveyorguarding.com

Email - safety@conveyorguarding.com

Wedge Clamps with Tie Wraps DO Satisfy the Requirement of Needing a Tool to Remove a Guard

Table of Contents:

- 1) How the Wedge Clamp and Tie Wrap Satisfies “Requiring a Tool to Remove”.
- 2) Interpretation Verses Definition “Requires Tool To Remove”.
- 3) Definition of Tool.

STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE

1) How The Wedge Clamp with Tie Wrap Satisfies “Requires a Tool to Remove”:

Using a wedge clamp the fixed guard is held firmly in position. The tie wrap is fastened securely around the shaft of the wedge as not to allow a worker to disengage the wedge clamp without using a tool to remove the tie wrap. This tool could be side cutters or wire cutters.

The **ONLY** intension of the tie wrap is to not allow the worker to disengage the wedge clamp without a tool. The tie wrap at no time will be supporting the weight or carrying the load of the guard!!



The tie wrap should be wrapped firmly around the shaft of the wedge clamp through the clamp as shown in the picture and tightened snugly. We recommend that a minimum 3/8” heavy duty UV black tie wrap (tensile strength-120 pounds) be used for this application.

The act of requiring a tool to remove the guard was enacted to force the worker that is required to work on the equipment behind the guard to make an additional effort to remove the guard. This additional effort will make the worker think about the hazard that is behind the guard and use a safe practice when servicing the area. Pulling the pull cord to de-energize the equipment if it is an emergency or Locking and Tagging the equipment if it is normal maintenance.

STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE

2) Interpretation Verses Definition – “Requires a Tool to Remove”:

This statement seems to be a very basic and simple statement with little ramification. The problem with the statement is the interpretation not the definition. We have many interpretations of the word “tool”. Some interpret tool as being a wrench, pliers or screw driver but not a hammer. But the definition of a tool includes a hammer. The only way to have people agree on what is a tool is to use a standard definition which has been in existence for many years. (See below definition). If we want to go further and define what tools can be used then we need to be specific and state the types of tools which are acceptable in the standards.

3) Definition of a Tool:

(Dictionary.com)

1. an implement, esp. one held in the hand, as a hammer, saw, or file, for performing or facilitating mechanical operations.
2. any instrument of manual operation.
3. the cutting or machining part of a lathe, planer, drill, or similar machine.
4. the machine itself; a machine tool.
5. anything used as a means of accomplishing a task or purpose: *Education is a tool for success.*

Webster's 1913 Dictionary

Pronunciation: tŌl

n. 1.

An instrument such as a hammer, saw, plane, file, and the like, used in the manual arts, to facilitate mechanical operations; any instrument used by a craftsman or laborer at his work; an implement; as, the **tools** of a joiner, smith, shoe-maker, etc.; also, a cutter, chisel, or other part of an instrument or machine that dresses work.

STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE

We hope you have enjoyed this tip sheet on “Wedge Clamps with Tie Wraps DO Satisfy the Requirement of Needing a Tool to Remove a Guard” and now see that selecting the right supplier is critical to your success. Whatever your approach is to guarding, follow these tips and you will reduce worker injury, improve productivity, and comply with industry standards.

I would like to personally wish you great success in your guarding endeavors.

Sincerely,

Paul Vandergeest
President

ON GUARD FOR YOU

Guarding Basics

If your conveyors need guarding, and you are interested in developing a Safety Guarding Plan, then contact Belt Conveyor Guarding to set up an appointment for your free Conveyor Guarding Assessment.

During your initial contact, we will take some time to get to know you and your specific requirements. Once we have a good understanding of your guarding challenges and objectives we will suggest guarding techniques that will quickly adapt to your needs.

Your assessment comes with no obligation to purchase our products or act on our recommendations, and we will not pressure you in any way. It will be your choice to take the next step, and if you choose not to, that's okay with us.

Book your free Conveyor Guarding Assessment today by calling our toll free number 1-866-300-6668 or fill in our contact information sheet at:

www.conveyorguarding.com/lpassess.htm

With each guarding assessment we will also send you a **free Conveyor Pinch Point Gauge**.

STAY AWAY - STAY SAFE