



March 31, 2015

Attention: Business owners, managers, supervisors, and employees who work in bowling alleys.

Workers who do repair work on pin-setting machines are at risk of being seriously injured or killed.

Serious incidents like getting body parts and clothing caught in moving parts or coming into contact with live electrical parts have occurred in recent years, resulting in workers being exposed to injuries such as:

- Amputations
- Asphyxiation
- Cuts and lacerations
- Fractures
- Electrocutions

This can lead to hospitalization or in some cases death.

Injuries like these are preventable. Implementing machine safeguarding procedures, lock-out/tag-out training, and other safe work practices are essential to keeping workers safe during routine repair tasks.

Use these resources to find and help protect workers who perform repair work on pin-setting machines:

- [Lock-out/tag-out](#) (L&I topic page)
- [Machine safety](#) (L&I topic page)
- [Pin Setting machine fatality](#) (OSHA)
- [Worker Killed While Clearing Stuck Bowling Pin](#) (DOSH Fatality Bulletin)



Lock-out/tag-out is essential to protecting workers from accidental start of machinery while performing repair work. ([WAC 296-803](#))

In addition to mechanical dangers of the work, employers need to [identify and address all site-specific hazards](#) as part of their written [required Accident Prevention Program \(APP\)](#), [PPE assessment](#), and, when applicable, other [safety programs](#).

Youth under age 18 are not permitted to operate this or other powered machinery or equipment. Get no cost assistance from L&I or visit L&I's Safety & Health webpage for training, videos, and other resources to help strengthen your safety program.

Share this bulletin with others in your industry and safety network.

*This bulletin was developed by L&I's Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) to alert employers, labor groups, and employees to potential hazards associated with work activities. **This is not a rule and creates no new legal obligations.** The information provided includes suggested guidance on how to avoid workplace hazards and describes relevant mandatory safety and health rules. DOSH recommends you also check related rules for additional requirements.*