



# POWER Regulations - Appliance Guarding

ceda Guide 066

Published September 2024



# PUWER Regulations - Appliance Guarding

## Introduction

The PUWER regulations place duties on people and companies who own, operate or have control over work equipment. Work equipment includes catering, bakery and refrigeration appliances. Control includes those that install and maintain work equipment.

We have recently been advised of two HSE prosecution cases where food production equipment was found to be dangerous with inadequate maintenance standards. In one case a worker had to have four fingers amputated as a result of missing guards and interlock devices that had been deliberately defeated.



*Food mixer missing a guard*

## PUWER requires that equipment provided for use at work is :-

- suitable for the intended use
- safe for use, maintained in a safe condition and inspected to ensure it is correctly installed and does not subsequently deteriorate
- used only by people who have received adequate information, instruction and training
- accompanied by suitable health and safety measures, such as protective devices and controls. These will normally include guarding, emergency stop devices, adequate means of isolation from sources of energy, clearly visible markings and warning devices



## PUWER Regulations - Appliance Guarding

continued

In service inspection and testing of equipment is very important in determining that equipment is safe for continued use

Always properly check and assess equipment to ensure effective control measures are in place to minimize the risk from dangerous parts of machinery. Incorrectly installed equipment, damaged or faulty equipment must be removed from service. Defects and concerns should always be noted on service reports and notified to the responsible person on site as well as your line manager.

Visual checks are an important part of the combined inspection and testing process

Always check the condition of covers and guards, cables, plug-tops, socket-outlets, earthing, and protective equipotential bonding. Immediately report any defects

All work equipment should be maintained so as to remain safe to use. Damaged, missing covers or guards, excessive wear, noise, vibration and age are some of the factors you should consider when examining any appliance to determine if it is safe to return to use. You should note any concerns you have on your Field Service Report and bring these to the attention of the end user and your Service Manager.

