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	STANDARD: **OSHA 29 CFR 1910.132, 1910.38 & ASAE S415.1**	AUDIT FREQUENCY: **Daily Pre-Shift & Weekly Comprehensive Audit**

Livestock Handling Pen And Gate Safety Sop Template

Operational Scope: Establishes mandatory protocols for inspecting and operating livestock holding pens, alleys, and gates to eliminate crushing, striking, and entrapment hazards. Ensures full compliance with agricultural machinery and animal containment safety standards.

MANDATORY PPE:	Steel-Toe Boots (ASTM F2413 compliant), Hard Hat (ANSI Z89.1), Cut-Resistant Heavy Leather Gloves, Safety Glasses (ANSI Z87.1), High-Visibility Reflective Vest
PREREQUISITES:	Verify escape routes and man-gates are clear of obstructions and operational. | Ensure stock-handling personnel have reviewed animal behavior safety guidelines and emergency escape paths. | Confirm communication devices (radios, mobile phones) are fully charged and functional.

STRUCTURAL INTEGRITY AND GATE HARDWARE INSPECTION

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
1	**Pen Panels & Post Anchors**	All vertical posts must be rigidly embedded in concrete or heavy soil without shifting; welds must be free of cracks and rust-through.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
2	**Gate Latches & Spring-Loaded Pins**	Latches must engage automatically and securely lock without manual forcing; drop pins must slide freely and seat completely.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
3	**Gate Hinges & Swivel Points**	Hinges must support full gate weight without sagging, dragging, or binding; grease fittings must be lubricated and free of grit.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
4	**Anti-Backstop & One-Way Gates**	One-way mechanisms must swing smoothly in the intended direction and lock instantly to prevent livestock reversal.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

ALLEYWAY, CROWDING TUB, AND ESCAPE ROUTE SAFETY

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
5	**Crowd Gate & Sweep Arm**	Sweep arm must travel its full arc without binding against pen walls; positive-stop lock must prevent back-swing toward operator.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
6	**Working Alleyway Walls & Slat Spacing**	Alley panels must be solid or properly spaced to prevent animal leg entrapment while preventing handlers from being pinned.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
7	**Emergency Escape Slits / Man-Gates**	Quick-exit escape gaps (12-14 inches wide) must be completely unobstructed by equipment, feed, or debris.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
8	**Floor Traction & Drainage**	Concrete surfaces must feature deep broom finishes or rubber mats to prevent animal slipping; drainage grates must be secure.	**Warning**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

LIGHTING, HYDRAULICS, AND OPERATIONAL CONTROLS

#	COMPONENT / ITEM	VERIFICATION CRITERIA & ACCEPTANCE STANDARD	SEVERITY	STATUS
9	**Work Area Illumination**	Lighting fixtures over pens, crowding tubs, and chutes must deliver minimum 50 foot-candles without casting harsh shadows.	**Standard**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A
10	**Hydraulic / Pneumatic Squeeze Chute Lines**	Hoses and fittings must show no signs of fraying, bulging, or fluid leaks; emergency pressure dump valve must function instantly.	**Critical (Immediate Out of Service)**	[ ] PASS [ ] FAIL [ ] N/A

Certified Livestock Handler / Safety Inspector Signature: _____	**Date / Time:** _____	**Badge / Cert #:** _____
Farm Operations Manager / Safety Supervisor Sign-off: _____	**Review Date:** _____	**Audit Status:** [ ] Approved [ ] Rectify

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