

# Environmental, Social and Governance

Spring 2022

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## Elk Rock Solution LLC

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Providing organizations and companies with innovative and effective environmental, social and governance solutions.

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# ESG News

## Thoughts From Jay

As we emerge from COVID restrictions, it's a great to hear the noise of people having fun again, to have the ability to see people smile and regain the joy of traveling and seeing friends and being with family.



Jay this spring hiking in Joshua Tree National Park

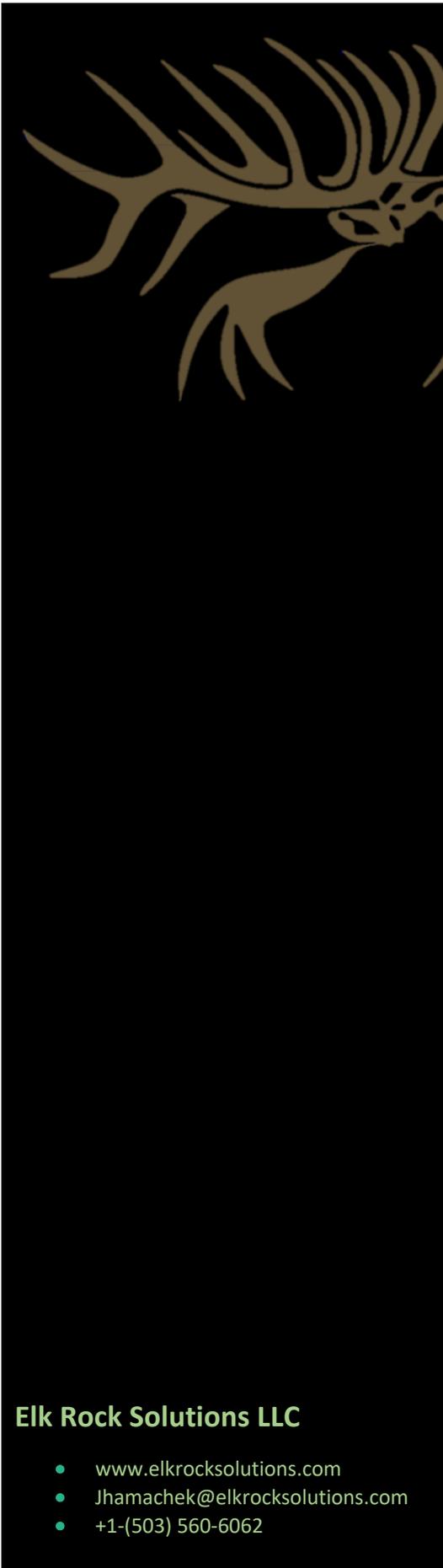
As the world regains its footing, it's imperative to reflect on tragedy that in 2021, resulted in 4,764

workers in the USA, losing their lives due to industrial accidents. An additional 7,000,000 workers in the USA were injured, preventing them from fully enjoying the simple post COVID joys described above. As our offices and workplaces open again, I hope you join me in the goal of not just having an average safety record but having an outstanding safety record of sending all employees' home safely each day. That goal may sound simple but ends up being a goal that requires hard and non-stop daily effort from all to achieve.

If you need assistance reaching your safety, health and environmental goals, give me a call or drop me an email. Jay Hamachek: [jhamachek@elkrocksolutions.com](mailto:jhamachek@elkrocksolutions.com)

## Amazon warehouse injury rate climbed 20% in 2021. Amazon's CEO says the rates are misunderstood. Amazon Aims To Have An Average Accident Rate

Amazon warehouse workers reported nearly 40,000 injuries on the job last year, up 20% from 2020, according to a new report. In total, there were 38,334 recordable injuries, which are defined as cases that require medical treatment beyond first aid or time off.



Amazon's CEO, Andy Jassy said the company's employee injury rates were "*sometimes misunderstood*" but vowed to do better. He said incidents in its warehouses were slightly above Amazon's peers' average, and slightly lower than the company's peers' average in the courier and delivery business—putting the company overall on par with others.

Amazon's lack of focus on their employee's safety is fueling the efforts to unionize

Amazon warehouses. So, is your organization's safety and health goal to be average and on "par with others" or to send each of your team members home safe after each work shift?



For additional information check

- [WSJ April 14, 2022: Amazon CEO Andy Jassy Pledges to Improve Worker Safety in Shareholder Letter](#)
- [Fox News: Amazon warehouse injury rates climb 20% in 2021.](#)

## When Is The Last Time That You Reviewed Your Written Lockout/Tagout Procedures? If Your Answer Is Not This Year...

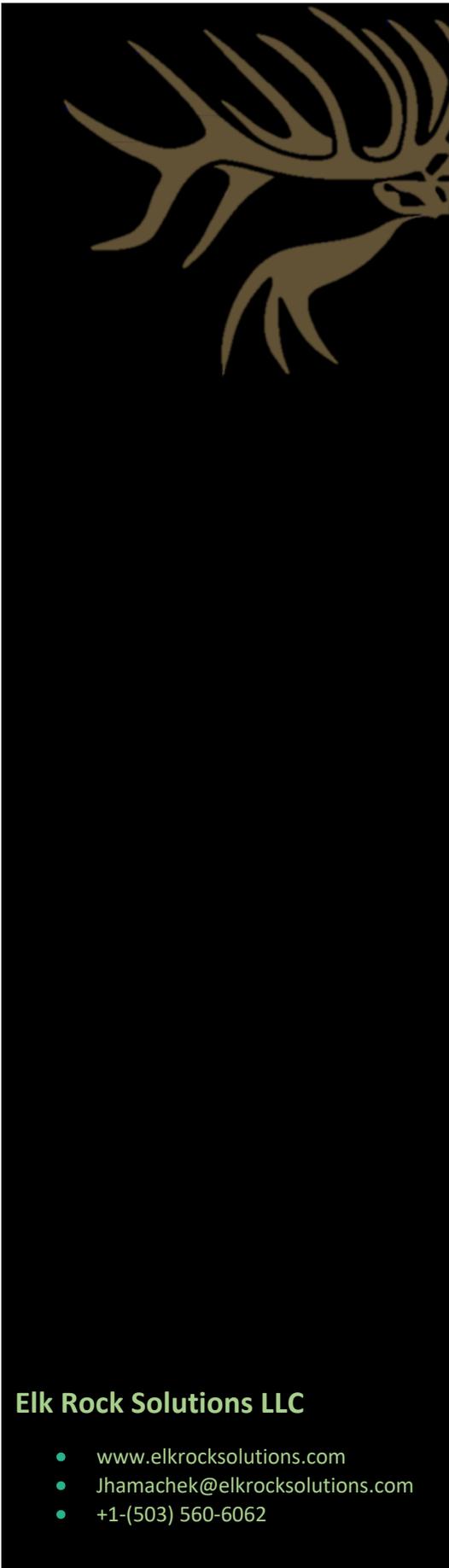
Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) is a basic but critical safety guard procedure that protects your employees in your workplace from stored energy. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) just released a new guidance document stressing the importance of employers reviewing their written LOTO procedures at least once a year.

LOTO violations are the 3<sup>rd</sup> most cited violation by OSHA. OSHA estimates that LOTO standards compliance prevents 120 fatalities and 50,000 injuries each year. When was the last time that you ensured all potential stored energy situations have been identified and controlled? Further, do you review your existing LOTO procedures at least on an annual basis?



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For additional information check these great online resources out.

- [NIOSH LOTO Inspections](#)
- [OSHA Control of Hazardous Energy Page](#)
- Still have questions? Contact me at Elk Rock Solutions LLC at 503-560-6062 or [jhamachek@elkrocksolutions.com](mailto:jhamachek@elkrocksolutions.com)

## OSHA launches emphasis program to help protect Midwest workers from hazardous noise

OSHA is taking a hard look at hearing protection in the Mid-West. 70% of all workers are exposed to moderate noise levels in the workplace with 10% being exposed to harmful noise levels on the job.



What is harmful occupational noise? OSHA requires employers to implement a hearing conservation program when the average noise exposure over 8 working hours reaches or exceeds 85 decibels. At that 8 hour time weighted 85 dB exposure level, OSHA requires the employer have a hearing conservation program that is designed to protect workers' hearing and prevent irreversible hearing loss

For additional information check out:

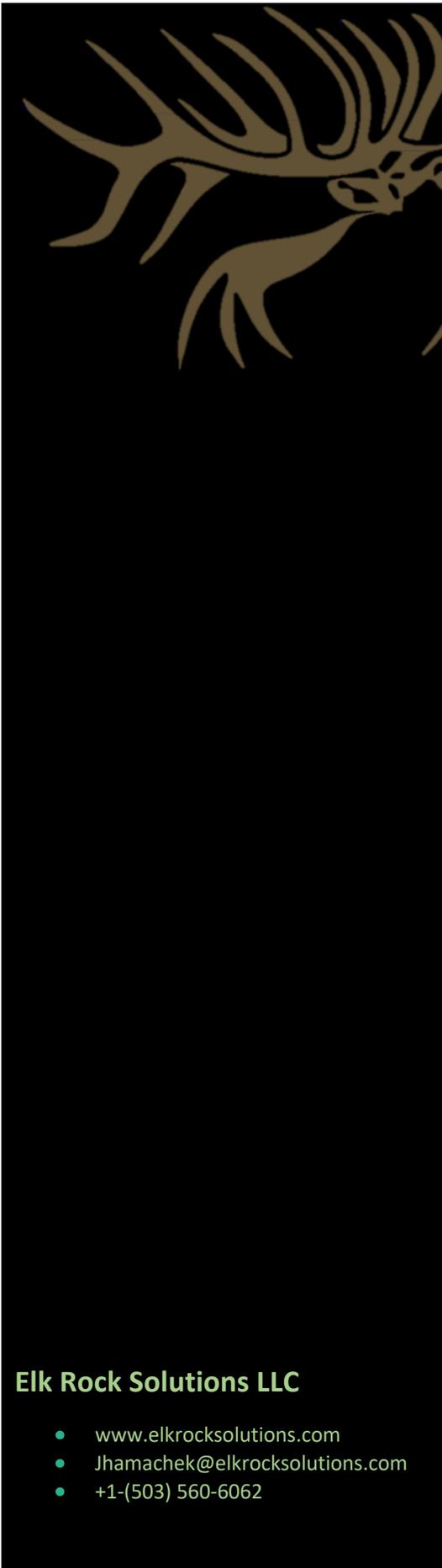
- [OSHA Region CPL 02-11-01L: Workplaces With Noise Hazards](#)
- [OSHA Noise Pocket Guide](#)

## On the Emissions Front, What's Next? Low Emission Cows!

Here is a great article from Wire Magazine:

### **Marketing findings a new angle in grocery store's meat counter: Low Carbon Beef**

There are a lot of ways to describe a hunk of beef. Take a stroll through the meat department of a grocery store in the United States and you'll be presented with a smorgasbord of meaty descriptors detailing the upbringing of your dinner: Angus, antibiotic-free, hormone-free, grass-fed, vegetarian-fed, and so on. But soon you might see another, more perplexing, description on the label: low-carbon.



In November, the US Department of Agriculture approved a program that will open a path for beef producers to market their meat as low-carbon. Producers who can prove that their cattle are raised in a way that emits 10 percent less greenhouse gases than an industry baseline can qualify for the certification scheme, which is run by a private company called Low Carbon Beef.

### Methane Reduction Project

- how to reduce methane emission by a minimum of 25%

A cow emits 300 lbs of methane per day, which is equivalent to 10% of the energy she would otherwise use for performance and milk production



Read the full article at:

- <https://www.wired.com/story/low-carbon-beef/>

## Ok, Low Emission Cows! But Low Emission Cocktails? Yes & Coming Your Way Soon!

With consumer pressure growing, producers of luxury alcohol brands are looking for solutions like this to help them adopt so-called circular models that reuse materials and reduce waste and pollution. Many of the strategies adopted so far are based on reducing the size and weight of bottles and cans and stepping up efforts to get consumers to recycle containers. But reducing the use of cans and bottles altogether has added benefits in reducing shipping emissions and energy use.

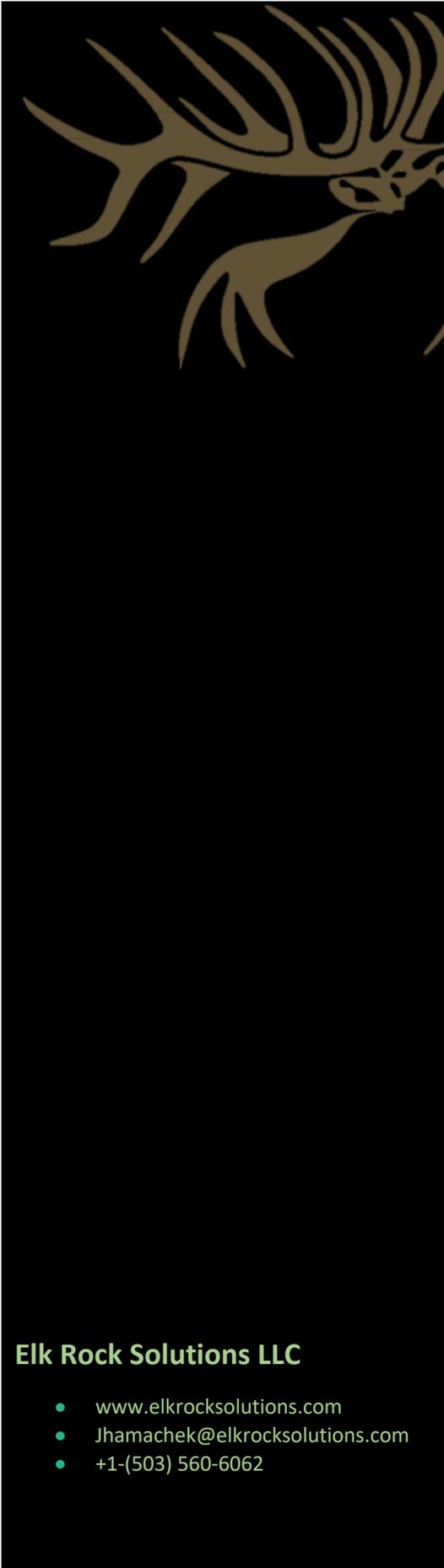


“The transition to circular packaging technology is one of the most important movements in the spirits industry today,” Paul Gabie, ecoSpirits chief executive officer, said in an interview. “Circular is one of the most effective ways for our industry to do its part in supporting the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and the global drive to net-zero carbon emissions.”

EcoSpirits is one of several companies offering beverage makers ways to slim their shipment profiles. Colorado-based BrewVo has developed a way to extract water and alcohol from beer before shipment and reconstitute it at the destination. London-based Packamama makes lie-flat wine bottles that are 87% lighter than traditional cylindrical glass ones and 40% smaller, so almost twice the amount of product can be shipped in the same space,

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according to the company. It said sales volumes rose more than 20-fold in 2020 and growth has continued despite the pandemic.

The drinks industry still has some issues on the environmental front, regardless. Spirits manufactured in one location might be flown anywhere else in the world. The sourcing of ingredients can be a drain on the food-and-beverage supply chain, too. And while the likes of ecoSpirits and Packamama may be changing some practices, there's still an awful lot of single-use glass, and packaging and container space being used between the creation of the product and the moment it hits a customer's mouth.

Want to read the full Bloomberg article:

- [https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-04-16/a-quick-way-to-cut-emissions-from-your-drinks?cmpid=BBD041622\\_GREENDAILY&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_term=220416&utm\\_campaign=greendaily](https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2022-04-16/a-quick-way-to-cut-emissions-from-your-drinks?cmpid=BBD041622_GREENDAILY&utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_term=220416&utm_campaign=greendaily)

## Low Emission Cows, Low Emission Cocktails & A Low Emission Micky Mouse...

Below is the link to a great article from The Points Guy on the efforts Disney and other theme parks are doing today to make their parks increasingly sustainable. Disney World in Orlando Florida already has over 270 acres of solar panels generating 57 megawatts of carbon free electrical energy, saving over 52,000 MT CO<sub>2</sub>e/Year. By 2023, Disney World is bringing online two additional 75 acre solar projects that combined with their existing 270-acre project will supply Disney World 40% of their electrical needs. Disney's goal is to be 100% carbon neutral by 2030.

For More Information:

- <https://thepointsguy.com/guide/theme-park-sustainability/>
- <https://impact.disney.com/environment/environmental-sustainability+/#environmental-goals-targets?CMP=ILC-DPFY22Q2wo0331220015A>

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