

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

A shop worker had removed a rock between dual tires. As the worker went to collect the chain, the tire exploded, and road surface materials (rocks, mud, debris) flew into the worker's face. This resulted in a serious eye injury.



SUGGESTED RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Any work on tires requires safety glasses, gloves and a hard hat be worn until the job is complete.
2. Operators must continually inspect all tires for damage and change or repair before damage results in tire explosion.
3. The safest method for dealing with rocks in between tires or changing compromised tires is to first deflate the compromised tire to 10 to 15% of recommended operating psi pressure.
4. It's mandatory to first deflate multi piece rim tires before changing.
5. A good option for preventing rocks in between tires is to install a rock/debris ejector bar. The picture on the right is a 1 ton shop truck with a ½” by 2” flat bar. The bar needs to hang well below axle centre and not so far ahead it wears on the rims or axle.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

The safest method for dealing with rocks in between tires or changing compromised tires is to first deflate the compromised tire to 10 to 15% of recommended operating psi pressure.

