

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

An employee was in the process of making Babbitt plates in the filing room and had completed a number of mold pours. A countersink pin for the mold had fallen out and reset back into the anvil.

When the pin was being reset the employee rested his left hand on the edge of the stationary mold anvil with the tip of the index finger extending slightly below the top edge of the anvil. The employee's right hand was resting on the metal plate above the air cylinder switch.

The employee inadvertently activated the air switch with his right hand, pinching his left index finger between the two anvils. The incident resulted in the employee suffering a fracture and one-inch split laceration to his left index finger that required four stitches.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Update Job Safety Assessments to include written procedures for the safe use and maintenance of the Babbitt mold equipment including lockout for maintenance and pin adjustments.
- Post and review the updated Job Safety Assessment with all filers. Emphasize the requirement to lockout equipment when performing equipment maintenance and pin adjustments.
- Extend the metal guard above the air switch so that it projects further out from the side of the Babbitt mold to prevent inadvertently activating the anvil.
- Reverse the action of the air switch so that it needs to be pulled out in order to activate the cylinder and close the anvils position.
- Discuss with all filing room employees the need to conduct continual hazard assessments “in the moment”.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Complacency when performing everyday tasks can lead to significant injuries. Focus on the process instead of the outcome.

MAG
Manufacturing Advisory Group



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