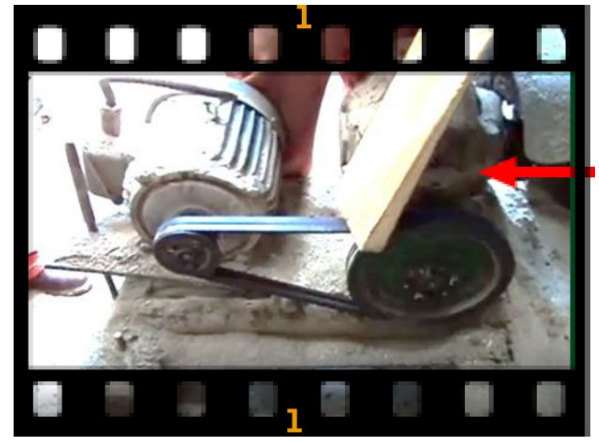


# MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself  
“Could it happen here?”

## DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Interactions with Gear Reducers/Radicons have been responsible for many serious injuries within the forest products manufacturing industry. When a conveyor gets plugged up or jammed, the Radicon or Gear Box can bind up under tension and create hidden stored energy. This stored energy needs to be released before any work can take place. If tension is not released, handling the belts may cause them to suddenly rotate, drawing the employees' hand between the belt and pulley (illustrated in the linked video).



Scan me for  
the Video

## SUGGESTED ACTIONS

1. **NEVER GRAB THE BELT OR CHAIN WITH YOUR HANDS OR USE YOUR FEET TO RELEASE THE TENSION.**
2. If you are unfamiliar with this task, contact your supervisor or maintenance personnel with experience working with Radicon/Gear Reducers to assist with a risk assessment and determine how to safely release the tension. Never undertake this task without appropriate training and experience.
3. Always stay clear of the release of stored energy. Remember when the tension is released, it occurs VERY quickly and with tremendous force.
4. Use an approved hand tool to release the tension.

## MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Always assume Radicons/Gear Reducers are under tension. Release the tension prior to any work starting.

**MAG**  
Manufacturing Advisory Group



BC Forest Safety

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