

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF HAZARD

Pressurized Lines Can Cause Serious Injuries

Each year workers are injured when pressurized hoses (pneumatic and hydraulic) become accidentally uncoupled from connections or a fitting failure occurs causing the hose to whip out of control. Recognizing regular wear and tear will eventually cause failure, engineering controls and safety devices need be installed to control these hazards.

SUGGESTED CONTROLS



Quick Connect Couplers - control the release of air, allowing operators to quickly connect and disconnect tools without the risk of hose whip.



Whip Checks & Restraints - extend across the hose fittings to limit the movement of uncoupled hoses in the event of failure.



Chicago Air Fittings - should be moused/wired and whip checks used. Hose-to-fitting connections must be crimped or fastened with a mechanical fastener - not clamps!



Blow Down Wand Triggers - stop air-flow when released in place of a ball valve/gate valve on/



Compressed Air and Preset Air Flow Regulators- a pressure reducing valve that can be installed at the outlet and used to maintain downstream pressure. Inline preset regulators can be installed into air guns to prevent output above 15 psi.



Thread-Lock Fittings - a thread-locking fluid to threaded air fittings can minimize leakage and potentially prevent accidental disconnection. *Always check manufacturers recommendations before applying thread-locking fluid.*



Hose Reels - keep hoses up off the floor and out of the way of trips or equipment damage.

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Manufacturing Advisory Group



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

- Educate your workers on the risks of pressurized hoses.
- Always complete a pre-use inspection.
- Safety Committee members include on your monthly inspection checklist.

BCFSC welcomes all incident or near-miss submissions. To protect your privacy, we will review and remove all identifying information.

To share an incident or to subscribe to the Safety Alert of the Week, visit: www.bcfestsafe.org/safety-alerts/

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