

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Planer Live Fence

An employee at a planer mill was grading lumber at the grade table. While performing the task, a broken piece of wood caught in the live fence just past the landing table.

The employee reached over the guard and tried to grab the broken piece of wood while the live fence was still running and their glove caught in the chain. The employee managed to quickly remove their hand from the glove before it was pulled into the sprocket of the fence chain.

No injuries occurred.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Improve guards to ensure worker safety and eliminate the ability to reach over a guard and contact a moving part.
- Communicate to all employees with information on the dangers of reaching around or over guarding. Set a policy in place that this action is not acceptable.
- Update current SWPs to include information about the hazards of reaching over or around guards.
- Examine the possibility of a complete re-alignment or adjustment of the landing table area to minimize skews of broken lumber pieces in the flow of lumber in this area.
- Increase the number of site inspections to verify compliance with these expectations.

IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Communicate to all employees with information on the dangers of reaching around or over guarding.

Set a policy in place that this action is not acceptable.

