

# MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself  
“Could it happen here?”

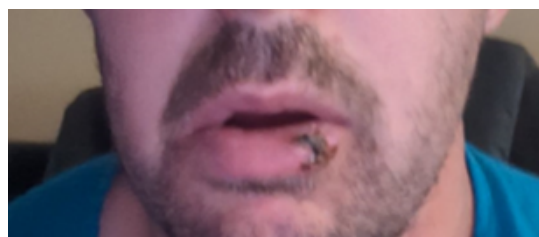
## DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

### Pike Pole Incident

An employee was injured while using a pike pole on a sit and re-feed moisture sort. The employee used the pike pole to poke in the belts of the moving equipment causing it to bounce back and strike the employee in the face.

The incident resulted in a cut lip, fractured teeth roots, and a concussion.

Using a pike pole in running equipment is not a safe work procedure.



## SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Conduct a safety stand down with crews to evaluate the incident and review pike pole safety procedures.
- Inspect the mill for damaged pike poles and decide if pike poles are the right piece of equipment. Decide which are the correct tools for various tasks.
- Hold crew meetings to discuss updates from the investigation and reinforce the importance of keeping pike poles out of moving equipment.
- Increase observations of employees using pike poles to ensure they are following safety procedures.

## MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Increase monitoring of pike pole usage and provide feedback on the safe methods of using a pike pole near moving equipment.

**MAG**  
Manufacturing Advisory Group



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