

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Chipped Tooth Incident

A kiln forklift operator was having difficulty positioning a carriage under a lift bracket and called for help.

It was a long weekend, and the regular watch person was not on shift. An alternate watch worker stepped in to assist. While familiar with the process, the alternate had not been trained using the Safe Work Procedure (SWP) specific to this task.

While they were assisting, they let go of the handle to reposition the door. The handle swung down unexpectedly and struck them in the mouth, causing a small chip in a tooth.



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Ensure SWP's are clearly understood for the task at hand.

Keep your mind on the task and slow down. Do not rush and ask questions if you are unclear.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Share details of the incident with others who perform this task.
- Review current procedures and involve the safety committee in identifying improvements.
- Revisit the SWP and communicate any updates to prevent similar incidents.
- Update Job Safety Analyses (JSAs) for roles that may assist with this task.
- Remind forklift operators to report any issues with doors promptly, even if not mechanical.
- Reinforce the importance of staying focused and conducting hazard assessments before starting a task.

