

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Finger Laceration

During a routine hazard assessment with three other millwrights, it was decided to reposition all chains back one lug in accordance with standard procedure. Following proper lockout, an apprentice attempted to realign the chains by leaning over from the side, rather than the usual head-on approach.

In doing so, the chain caught the worker's right index finger, resulting in a laceration. The employee was promptly taken to hospital, where stitches were administered. Although the apprentice returned to work shortly afterwards, it was subsequently discovered that surgery was necessary to stabilize a fracture in the finger. All required personal protective equipment was in place and remained undamaged throughout the incident.



Finger Laceration Incident mp4



Scan to
view video
of incident

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Crew meeting regarding hazard awareness and complacency.
- Review ergonomics and body positioning with employee(s)
- Check Trim saw PM for any issues that may cause jam ups through the trim saw zone.
- Investigate the option to use a tool similar to a hook used for hay bales. Suitable to allow for the hand to be away from the pinch point while moving chain.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Remember that even if safety procedures and protective gear are used, not following the usual safe way of doing a task—like changing how you position your body—can still lead to injuries. Always stick to safe methods to help prevent accidents.

MAG

Manufacturing Advisory Group



BC Forest Safety

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