MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
"Could it happen here?"

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Broken Bandsaw – Leg Laceration – Medical Treatment

The employee started the shift by completing a scheduled morning bandsaw change on the Optimil. After finishing the bandsaw change, the employee proceeded to move a saw into the damaged saw staging area. To create additional space, the employee had to reposition another damaged saw.

While doing so, the employee brushed their leg against the back side of the damaged saw. This contact caused a laceration to the thigh, which required eight stitches.



SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Implement the requirement to wear protective equipment such as bucking pants and upper body protection like busking protection for saw filers when handling, moving, or disposing of damaged or broken band saws.
- Conduct an equipment failure investigation
- Re-centre the line to ensure adequate clearance and prevent contact between components.
- Inspect all mechanical safeguards and verify that mechanical hard stops will prevent the bandsaw from contacting the sharp chain during operation.

MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Always maintain awareness of sharp hazards and body positioning when handling or moving damaged equipment.

Wear the required PPE that will minimize exposure to sharp saws.

MAG Manufacturing Advisory Group

BC Forest Safety