

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

Near Miss – Crane / Rigging

During clean-up activities, a bandsaw was struck when pneumatically activated hatch unexpectedly opened when then system was energized due to the operating valve being open position.

The impact knocked the bandsaw off its cradle which resulted in a near miss that had potential for serious injury.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Verify that a secure holding mechanism is in place to prevent bandsaws from being unintentionally dislodged from their cradle.
- Ensure all control valves are clearly marked to show their position (for example, open or closed). In this case, the air valve labelling needed improvement, so it was clear the valve was in the off position before the system was energized.
- Review storage practices to ensure bandsaws are not placed in front of access hatches or in the direct path of moving components.



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

It is critical to ensure restraint systems are properly in place and air valves are clearly marked to prevent equipment from becoming a struck-by hazard.