



Pinch Point – Caught Between

Incident Description: On 6-2-2016 a shop employee was setting a plate of steel weighing approximately 1100 lbs. onto a fixture on a milling machine. While the employee was lining up the plate, one of the clamps gave way causing the slab to swing away from the fixture. As the slab swung back it pinched the employee's pinky finger between the plate and the backrest.



Immediate Observations:

- ✓ Even though the plate was supported by the overhead crane there was slack in the cable allowing the slab to swing.
- ✓ The employee unknowingly placed his left hand in the line of fire.
- ✓ There were no additional clamps used to support the steel slab.

Safety Performance Tool to Prevent Future Occurrence:

Line-of-Fire

- ✓ Line-of-fire boils down to hazard awareness. As you plan each task, look for the line-of-fire so that you can take protective measures.
- ✓ Anticipate if can move it will.
- ✓ Think about the possible consequences that may result from where we place our hands with the actions we perform.

Lessons Learned:

- ✓ Use clamps to prevent material (i.e. plates) from accidental movement.
- ✓ Always take 30 seconds to identify "line-of-fire" and "pinch point" hazard before starting your job task.
- ✓ Avoid touching, leaning or contacting equipment or materials that move. Touch it with your eyes not your hands.