

Lessons Learned



Date: April 12, 2021

Region: Portland

Project: Madison High School

Incident Title: Hand laceration

Summary

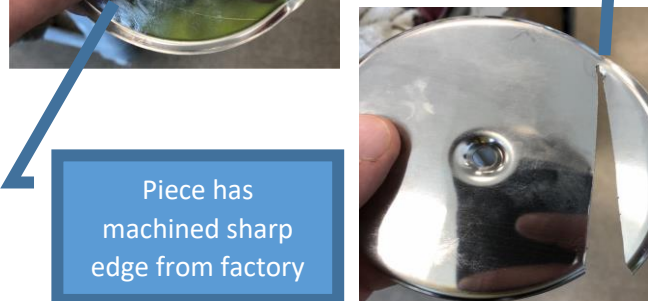
Employee had to trim down a drain clean out cover for fit in an area where the cabinet trim caused interference with installing a whole round cover.

Upon trimming down the cover using a portaband saw, the material bound up on the saw blade. Causing the cover to spin around, the rough-cut edge of the cover, cutting the outer part of the workers left index finger.

This caused a laceration that required 5 stitches, due to ragged edge of the cut.



Blade was too coarse and bound up as it reached the edge.



Piece has machined sharp edge from factory

What Went Right?

- Reporting was immediate.
- Prompt medical care resulted in good prognosis for quick recovery.
- No long-term disability
- Cut resistant gloves were being worn, did not protect from puncture type incident.

What Went Wrong?

- Employees hand was in the line of fire.
- Worker was using left hand to hold material, and one hand on the portaband. Tool requires two hands to operate.
- Cover design has a manufactured sharp edge which creates a hazard.
- The potential Hazard was not recognized
- Cover was not secured

Lessons Learned

- Utilize 2 hands on tools that require them, **AT ALL TIMES.**
- Never place your hand in the line of fire, while operating tools.
- Look for methods to secure items that will need to be drilled, cut, or ground. If you cannot, **STOP** and ask for assistance.
- Take the time to identify potential Hazards, eliminating them prior to starting.