

Lessons Learned



Date: May 24, 2021

Region: Portland-Bend

Project: Caldera High School

Incident Title: Un-secured bolt

Summary

Employee was doing seismic installation on duct work.

While doing the task, employee realized he did not have enough support brackets for the task at hand.

To have enough materials, worker chose to get a bracket from the trash and try to salvage it by cutting off a locking bolt, using a portaband saw.

Employee was holding the bracket in his left hand, holding the portaband with the right. His follow-through when cutting the bolt allowed the sawblade to contact his left index finger, causing a laceration that needed 7 stitches to close.



Correct positions for 2 hands on tool



Bolt to be cut off

What Went Right?

- Employee was wearing cut resistant gloves.
- Did not amputate finger.

What Went Wrong?

- Poor planning created a need to salvage materials.
- Using his hand as a tool to hold the material while cutting.
- Saw was improperly used, as the tool requires 2 hands to operate safely.

Lessons Learned

- Inadequate planning of task created a sudden need for more materials.
- Failure to secure material put hand in line of fire.
- Improper use of tool created severe potential for injury.

Securing materials in a vice would have allowed employee to properly use the tool. Thereby eliminating the line of fire positioning of his index finger, less than 2 inches away from a moving blade. There was no need to do this task this way.