

Key Lessons

Broken Fingers

Date of Incident: 2016-07-09

Site: Ghyll Scuar Quarry, Aggregates

Country: United Kingdom

Main hazard/ Risk: Energy Isolation

Description of Event:

An incident occurred on the 9th July which resulted in two broken fingers and a lost time injury to a colleague.

The operative was completing a planned maintenance task of changing the v-belts on the primary crusher. Following the change of v-belts the injured party noticed a twist in one of the v-belts and attempted to untwist the belt. At this moment the other operator moved the larger main crusher pulley slightly which caused a greater movement on the motor pulley, this caused the operatives hand to be pulled into the pulley becoming nipped between the v-belt and pulley drum. This nip caused two of the operative's fingers to break as well as significant swelling and bruising.

The Operative was off work for 10 days and returned to work on restricted duties for 5 more days.

This incident could have led to worse injuries, even the loss of the fingers.

Photographs:



Key Lessons after Incident Investigation:

| Root Causes | Category | Corrective and Preventive Actions |
|--|------------------|---|
| The method statement for the task was not followed. | 2. Human Factors | Apply appropriate discipline – Fair and Just Culture |
| Poor communication between the operatives completing the task. | 2. Human Factors | Good communication is needed between operatives, so that key information is discussed going through the task. |

1. Physical Conditions Examples include: Controls, Visibility, Upset Conditions, Noise/Vibrations, Equipment Facility design, Warnings, Environment

2. Human Factors Examples include: Cognitive, Psycho-Behavioral, Physical/Mental Limitations, Perceptual, Self-imposed stress, Personnel

3. Management System Examples include: Training, Accountability, Communications, Planning & Evaluation, Rules and Procedures, Supervision, Incident Investigation

4. Culture, Perception and Beliefs Examples include: Risk Tolerance, Visible Leadership, Employee Engagement, Value for Safety, Norms, Drift, Goals



Communication Principles

- Determine a country wide process for distribution of this document, including appropriate corrective actions for all levels of the organization.
- Communication should include discussions in Team Meetings, Toolbox Talks, posting on Notification Boards, email distribution, and developing and sharing relevant action plans



Important Actions

- Perform a gap analysis based on the information in this document.
- Establish the action plan including objectives and processes necessary to ensure a similar incident will not occur at your sites.
- Implement the action plan, execute the process, close the gaps.
- Collect data to track implementation until completion