



SAFETY LESSON LEARNT

Incident Title

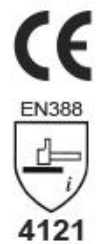
Glove catches in grinder

Date

16 August, 2018

INCIDENT DETAIL

An employee was using an angle grinder to grind paint from a metal surface with a flapper disk when the back of his glove caught in grinder. The grinder caught in the fabric back of the nitrile type glove (Esko Black Hawk E420) and drove the grinder in the back of the employee's knuckles. The resulting flesh injury required medical treatment and was considerably worse than what would be expected had he not be wearing gloves



INITIAL RESPONSE AND INVESTIGATION OUTCOMES

Required handles to be fitted and used for two handed operation. Changed to leather riggers gloves when using grinders while alternative glove options could be assessed.

LEARNINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The root cause is incorrect usage of the angle grinder. Two handed operation is required for correct operation of an angle grinder. Handles must be fitted and used.

EN388 is a standard that ranks gloves for protection from mechanical risks, including abrasion resistance, with 1 the worst and 4 the best (this is the first number of the 4 digit code). The gloves being used were rated 4 (the best) but are only protecting the palm, with a light material on back.

A knuckle dip glove is to be trialled for better back of hand protection <https://www.lynnriver.co.nz/products/hand-protection/general-purpose-gloves/67071-ultra-grip---knuckle-dip>.



ENGINEERED SUCCESS

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