

Medical Treatment Injury whilst using Drill Press

What happened?

1. The IP (injured party) was using the drill press at the Station mechanical workshop to drill cable plates for a new 400v cabinet.
2. The IP didn't clamp the plate to the drill press resulting in it spinning around whilst drilling
3. The edge of the metal plate caught the IP on the hand and finger, resulting in 5 stitches.

Karapiro Hydro Station - Mercury

What did we learn?

1. Checks are necessary to ensure workers are competent and not just trained in using specialised equipment.
2. A Safe Work Procedure attached to the machine may have ensured that the clamping of the metal plate occurred prior any drilling taking place
3. Pre-start meetings need to include discussions around specialised equipment and competency.
4. Anything being drilled will be clamped securely in place

