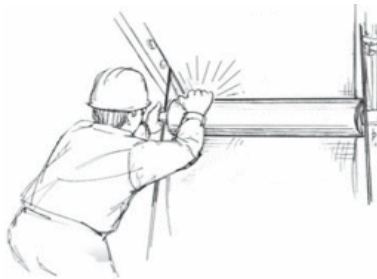


ACCIDENT ALERT

Workers seriously injured in conveyor accidents

A health and safety message from the WCB



In recent months, workers were seriously injured in several accidents involving conveyors. In wood products manufacturing, conveyors are the second most common type of equipment involved in amputations (saws are the first). Many other types of industries also use conveyors. The resources in this accident alert may help prevent similar injuries in your workplace.

Recent accidents

- In three separate accidents involving conveyors in sawmills, one worker had a leg amputated, one young worker lost his arm, and another worker's hand was broken.
- In a fish processing plant, a worker's glove was caught on the moving belt conveyor, resulting in cuts when his hand was drawn into a shear point.
- A worker was removing debris from the tail drum of a chain conveyor in a rubber recycling plant. When the conveyor was started from the control station, the worker's foot was pulled around the tail drum, resulting in crushing injuries to the leg and foot.
- A worker in the airline catering services receiving crushing injuries to two fingers when her gloved hand was caught in the nip point between the belt and the roller.

Safe work practices to prevent accidents and injuries involving conveyors

- Lock out moving parts before cleaning or repairing conveyors.
- Install guards or devices to prevent inadvertent contact with pinch points.
- Use a tool to clear jams.
- Provide training in safe work procedures for workers who work near conveyor systems, including procedures for clearing debris and lockout.
- Do not wear loose clothing or jewellery when working near conveyors.

Related "Hazard Alert" Bulletins

- **HA03-08 Young worker's arm caught in conveyor belt**
<http://publications.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/posters.asp?ReportID=32351>
- **HA01-01 Chipperman's arm amputated while clearing jam**
<http://publications.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/posters.asp?ReportID=31308>
- **HA97-11 Lock out before servicing**
<http://publications.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/posters.asp?ReportID=31421>
- **Fatal 97-07 Identify and guard all nip points**
<http://publications.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/posters.asp?ReportID=31433>

Young worker accidents with conveyors

- **Michael's Story** (PDF 49 KB) from the WCB of BC
http://youngworker.healthandsafetycentre.org/PDFs/YoungWorker/2003_camp/Michael.pdf
- **Jennifer's Story** (PDF 72 KB) from the WCB of BC
http://youngworker.healthandsafetycentre.org/PDFs/YoungWorker/2003_camp/Jennifer.pdf

Online Resources

- **Safeguarding 101: Keeping a Safe Distance**, (PDF 113 KB) from WCB WorkSafe Magazine, July/August 2002
http://www.healthandsafetycentre.org/PDFs/SafetyBulletins/wsm_1.pdf
- **Preventing Serious Injuries with Proper Lockout Procedures** (PDF 111 KB) from WCB WorkSafe Magazine, March/April 2002
http://www.healthandsafetycentre.org/PDFs/SafetyBulletins/wsm_2.pdf
- **Technical Bulletin: Conveyor Safety**, from FFVA Mutual Insurance
http://www.ffvamic.com/LossControl/26_conveyor_safety.shtml
- **Concepts and Techniques of Machine Safeguarding**, from the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration
http://www.osha.gov/Publications/Mach_SafeGuard/toc.html
- **Conveyor Safety (five-minute safety talk)**, from Michigan Department of Consumer and Industry Services
http://www.michigan.gov/documents/CIS_WSH_talk14_73403_7.htm

Regulation and Policy

- **Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, Part 10, Lockout**
<http://regulation.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/Part10.asp>
- **Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, sections 12.22 – 12.28, Conveyors**
<http://regulation.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/Part12.asp#SectionNumber:12.22>
- **OHS Guideline G12.28, Emergency stopping devices**
<http://regulation.healthandsafetycentre.org/s/GuidelinePart12.asp#SectionNumber:G12.28>

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