

Safety Flash

Incident with Recordable Injury

Date of Incident: 10/20/2022

The Incident

An associate was drilling a hole in a flange to line it up with another flange. The drill bit caught on the metal and twisted the drill and the associate's wrist resulting in a fracture.

The Causes

- Using the wrong style of drill bit.
- The drill did not have a handle designed into it.
- The associate was using only one hand on the drill.

Prevent It

- Get a working partner to hold the piece steady, so two hands can be used on the drill.
- Use a different style drill bit along with a drill or impact that has a handle and/or an adjustable clutch.
- Switch drill bits more often.

Action Plan

- Look into possible alternative methods to accomplish this task safely. Check with Vendors, other contractors, etc.
- Safety pre-task with the crew to cover the new method of doing this task until a long term solution can be implemented.

Keep Improving

Your health and safety are the most important part of every project. We need *your* help to eliminate unsafe behaviors and conditions. If you see a safer and better way to do a task, see your supervisor, or contact GEM Safety: Bill Cornett – 419-720-2728. To get personal protection equipment from the warehouse, call 419-720-2688.