

Safety Flash

Incident with Recordable Injury

Date of Incident: 3/26/2022

The Incident

An associate was making a final cut on a piece of threaded rod, using one hand to hold the threaded rod steady and the other hand to hold the portaband saw. When the associate finished cutting the rod, the momentum of his hand with the saw continued forward and lacerated his finger requiring medical treatment beyond first aid.

The Causes

- Due to the aerial lifts positioning, the associate had to reach out past the railings of the lift.
- Threaded rod was very flimsy due to the hanger not being completely assembled.
- Associate was only using one hand to hold the portaband saw while making the cut due to the flimsiness of the threaded rod.

Prevent It

- Use a different tool to perform this task.
- Make sure the threaded rod is stable/secure before beginning the cut.
- If portaband saw is to be used, be sure that both hands are on the saw and out of the line of fire.

Action Plan

- Order specialized tool to perform this task.
- Toolbox Talk to be developed on the importance of having both hands on the portaband saw while making cuts and securing the material being cut.
- Review hanger installation process and make changes if necessary.

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.