

Pressure Washer Incident

SAFETY ALERT

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Enform

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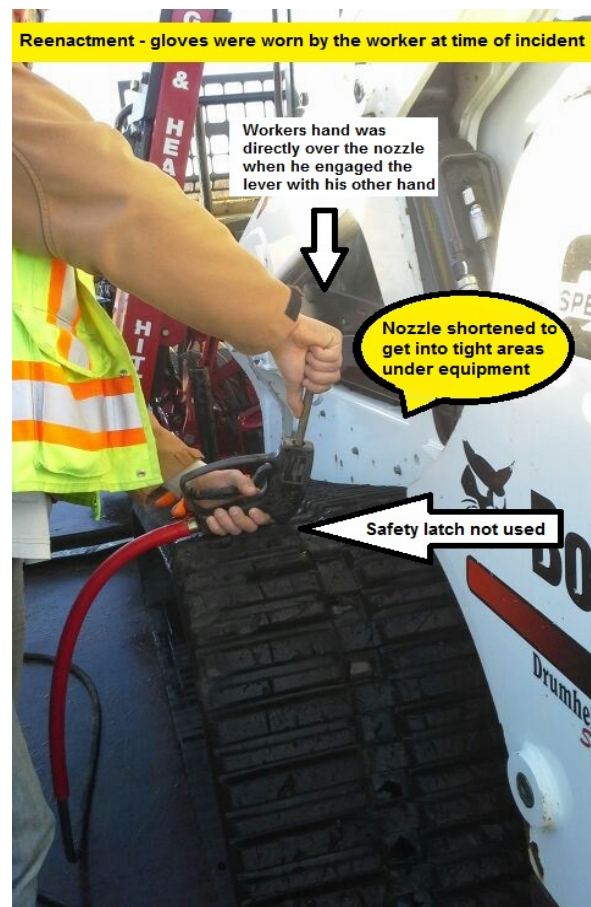
For more information on this event, please contact: safety@enform.ca

DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT:

A pressure washer operator was removing the short extension and nozzle tip when he engaged the trigger on the handle. The pressure washer discharged high pressure water directly into the palm of the workers gloved hand that was over the nozzle. The pressurized water penetrated the glove and entered the workers hand. As a result the worker's hand was injured and required sutures.



Wash Gun and Gloves Used



Reenactment

WHAT CAUSED IT:

Depression of the pressure washer trigger while removing the extension.

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CONTRIBUTING FACTORS INCLUDED:

- The worker did not use the safety latch.
- The worker did not isolate the energized system by turning off the pressure washer.
- Modified nozzle length.

CORRECTIVE/PREVENTATIVE ACTIONS:

- Personnel must de-energize or otherwise lockout energized sources before working on them.
- Wear gloves appropriate for the task and hazards present. A review of available gloves was undertaken and a heavier glove was selected.
- Ensure tools aren't modified and are used as per the manufacturer's specifications.

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