

Energy Safety Canada is the national safety association for the oil and gas industry. We develop and support common industry safety standards, deliver effective learning systems, share data analysis and safety expertise with workers and employers, and advocate for worker health and safety. Our goal is the same as industry's – zero injuries, zero incidents.

Share and Collaborate / Energy Safety Canada works collaboratively with organizations to develop Safety Alerts that improve hazard awareness and injury prevention. Canada's leading oil and gas industry trade associations support the sharing of information to help companies of all sizes improve safe work performance.

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WORKER INJURED FINGER IN PINCH POINT

DESCRIPTION:

A worker broke his finger while removing the screw pin on a shackle. Three workers were loosening the screw pin on a bow shackle that was attached to an excavator. One of them used a pin bar to loosen the screw pin. The shackle was unsteady, so a second worker came to hold it but was unable to keep pressure on shackle. A third worker put pressure on the shackle to help steady it but lost his grip, pinching his fingers between shackle and the attach point on the excavator.



WORKER HOLDING THE PIN BAR ON A SHACKLE AT THE BACK OF AN EXCAVATOR

CAUSE:

- Workers' hands were in the line fire.
- Workers held shackle to steady.
- Workers rushing and did not take time to reassess hazards.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:

- » Screw pins should only be tightened to the shoulder of the pin.
- » Workers were encouraged to take the time to refine hazard identification, including hand placement.
- » Use of stickers to indicate pinch points and use of high-impact gloves.
- » Potential for hand injuries discussed during safety and tailgate meetings.
- » Employer sent out company wide communication reminding workers and supervisors to take time before each task to identify potential hazards.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Fingers are injured more often than any other part of the body.
- Hand and finger injuries account for up to 25 per cent of all injury claims*.
- Hand injuries average five days of lost work per claim*.

*Source: Alberta WCB