

Safety Stinger



Near Miss - Grinder

Incident Description: On 9-14-15 an employee was using a 9 inch grinder with a wire wheel to prepare a weld for repair. GBI had already mobilized out of the job and all that remained were a few tools which included the 9 in grinder. As the employee was grinding on the hatch between the angle iron and the hinge the grinder kicked back striking the employee in the leg. Because the grinder had guards in place and the employee was using the correct PPE there was no injury sustained.



Gauge Pole Hatch showing the wire wheel being used

Lessons Learned:

- Always take time to get the right tool for the job.
- ✓ Be prepared for all circumstances.
- Don't feel like you are ever rushed. Take time of reevaluate the JSA or create a new JSA if needed.

Immediate Observations:

- The grinder was too large for the task.
- GBI had already mobilized tool and equipment out of the site so a full range of tools were not available.
- Work was complete except for this one small repair and the employee felt rushed.

Safety Performance Tool to Prevent Future Occurrence:

Questioning Attitude

Use a Questioning Attitude to:

- Ensure good decisions are made prior to performing tasks
- Consider actions and assumptions from differing perspectives
- Challenge preconceptions and assumptions