

## Cut-resistant clothing must comply with standards



*Photo shows the chainsaw operator's damaged clothing*

### Details of incident

A tree faller received a cut to his leg, just below the knee, while using a chainsaw.

### Contributing factors

The tree faller was wearing cut-resistant leg protection of an outdated standard; any leg protection of an older standard will provide limited protection but cannot fully protect against modern chainsaws with their faster speeds.

The tree faller may not have suffered these injuries if he had worn leg protection that complied with the current standards.

The tree faller had purchased the leg protection within recent months.

## Recommendations

- Suppliers must ensure they supply only cut-resistant leg protection that is equal to or better than the current standard AS/NZS 4453:1997 Protective clothing for users of hand-held chainsaws.
- Anyone using a chainsaw must wear cut-resistant leg protection that meets the current standard AS/NZS 4453:1997 Protective clothing for users of hand-held chainsaws.

If you would like further information contact Workplace Standards Tasmania on:  
Telephone: **1300 366 322** (inside Tasmania) or (03) 6233 7657 (outside Tasmania)

Fax: (03) 6233 8338

Email: [wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au](mailto:wstinfo@justice.tas.gov.au)

Internet: [www.wst.tas.gov.au](http://www.wst.tas.gov.au)



Neale Buchanan  
Director, Operations  
Workplace Standards Tasmania  
14 July 2009