

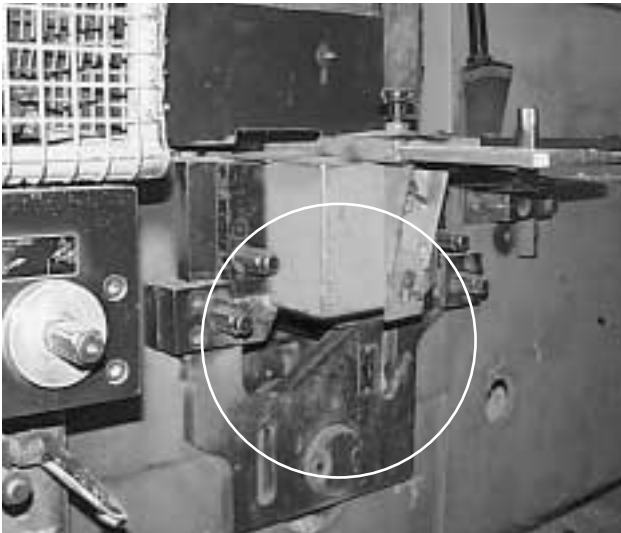
No job is more important.



Safety Alert

N°2 2002

Incident Involving Weinig H22 Moulding Machine



The cutter bearing cover plate in closed position



The cutter bearing cover plate is opened with a lift and turn motion

Note: the positive locking tongue welded to the cover plate

Details

An experienced operator was machining 90mm x 35mm timber plates on a **Weinig H22**, moulding machine when he believed that an obstruction to the work-flow had occurred at the out-feed end of the machine.

The operator raised the feed rollers, walked along the length of the machine, and after checking noticed no obstructions.

While walking back to the control panel to lower the rollers and re-start the feed mechanism, the operator stumbled and fell forward towards the first horizontal cutter, putting his left hand out to stop himself falling.

As the operator attempted to regain his balance he pulled his left arm towards his body. This action resulted in opening the bearing cover, which moved the attached guard, exposing the cutter blades. His wrist was still on top of the guard.

As the cover opened, the hand was drawn across the cutters amputating the little, ring and middle fingers up to the first joint.



An investigation into the accident revealed that:

- No tripping hazards were present at the time of the investigation.
- The operator's wrist landed on the timber guard over the cutter and the palm of his hand rested on the machine table on the in-feed side of the guard.
- The guard was attached to the cutter bearing cover which opens towards the out-feed end of the moulder.
- The cover was held in the closed position by a magnetic catch.

Recommendations

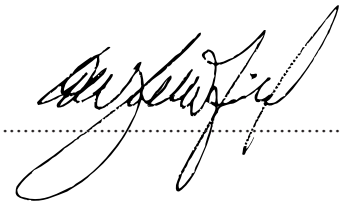
- That a positive locking device be fitted to prevent unintentional opening of the cover.
- That either a tool or a two directional movement be applied to this locking device to open the cover.

If you would like further information contact Workplace Standards Tasmania on:
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1 October 2002