

No job is more important.



Safety Alert
N°5 1997

METAL WORKING MACHINES — DRILL PRESSES

A worker seriously injured his hand while using a drill press to drill the handle of a knife.

The knife was not securely fastened to the table, the drill bit was blunt, and the speed of the drill bit was incorrect.

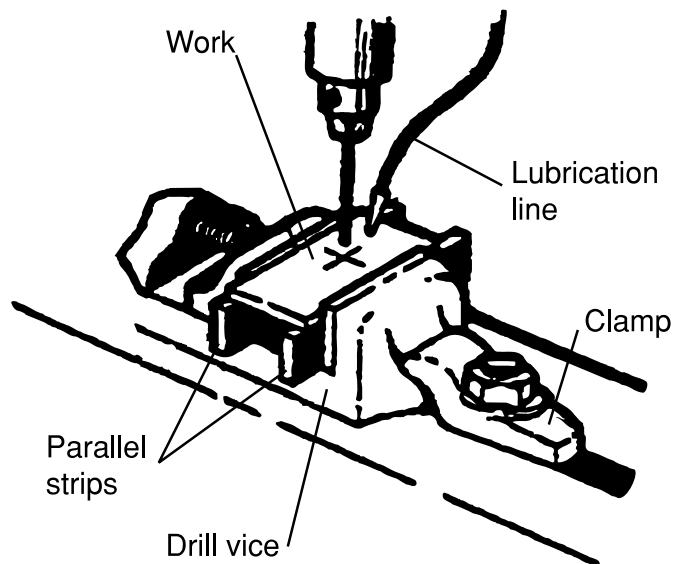
The operator had just sharpened the drill bit and was attempting to continue drilling using the sharpened drill bit in the partially drilled hole. He was supporting the knife with his left hand when the drill bit grabbed the knife, causing it to spin with the knife edge leading. The man was unable to remove his left hand quickly enough to prevent the knife striking his hand a number of times, resulting in serious injury.

The following information is supplied to prevent similar accidents from occurring.

THINGS YOU SHOULD DO

- **Wear safety glasses**
- **Confine long hair to prevent it from getting caught in revolving parts**
- **Ensure that the drill press has an approved start/stop button within easy reach**
- **Keep guards in place and in working order**
- **Use a brush or rake to remove cuttings**
- **Reduce drilling pressure as the drill breaks through the work piece**
- **Keep drill bits clean and sharp**
- **Keep the floor around the drill press free from oil and grease**
- **Use the parallel strips to ensure a secure grip**
- **Securely clamp the item to be drilled**
- **Use the correct drilling speed**
- **Use appropriate cutting lubricants when required**

LUBRICATE drill bit when drilling metal



THINGS YOU SHOULD NOT DO

- Do not wear any loose clothing or ties. Roll sleeves above the elbow to prevent them from being caught in revolving parts
- Do not wear rings, watches, bracelets or gloves while working with a drill press
- Do not set speeds, or adjust or measure work until the machine has completely stopped
- Do not leave a chuck key in the chuck at any time
- Do not place hands under stock while being drilled
- Do not stop rotation of chuck and spindle by hand
- Do not remove a broken drill bit with a centre punch and hammer
- Do not leave drill press running while unattended

* Note: Guarding on the drill presses must comply with
4024 *Safeguarding of Machinery*

