



SAFETY ALERT LTI – Laceration

ZH Alert No: STE170

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WHAT HAPPENED:

An employee suffered a serious laceration injury whilst using a five inch angle grinder to grind the hand rail that was previously welded.

The employee had his index finger caught between the spinning blade and the guard causing a laceration.



1. Five Inch Grinder



2. Laceration of Finger



3. Gloves

Why Did It Happen:

Our employee was facing away from his work that he was grinding. He started the grinder prior to turning around and facing the job surface.

When he turned the job was closer then he thought to his body, causing him to bump his elbow on the job, this made him lose his grip on the grinder and his finger slipped between the blade and the grinder guard.

Contributing Factors:

- Starting the grinder prior to turning around and facing the job surface.
- Inexperience with the safe use of the grinder
- Lack of training on Safe use of the grinder

Corrective Actions Required:

- Host employer to retrain the employee on the safe use of the angle grinder
- Employee to ensure that they are facing the job surface prior to starting any type of machinery

Key Learning's:

Always wear PPE provided by 1300apprentice and your host employer.

This employee's injuries could have been much worse if he was not wearing gloves.

Remember to STOP THINK ACT REVIEW prior to the commencement of any Activity