



1300 apprentice

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SAFETY ALERT

LTI – Trauma to Eye

ZH Alert No: 000037WTE

Date of incident: 30/05/2011

WHAT HAPPENED:

An employee was using a compressed air nail gun. Whilst discharging into the timber a nail fired through the timber and ricocheted back towards the employee and struck him in the eye. The nail caused blunt trauma to the eye ball and a scratch on the retina. The employee required specialist treatment and has had impaired vision since the incident.

WHY DID IT HAPPEN (DIRECT CAUSE):

A job safety analysis was performed and this incident is always a possibility of happening due to the nature of the tools being used. The best practice using the hierarchy of control would be PPE. The employee was not wearing safety glasses at the time of the incident. We believe that the injury could have been avoided if he had been wearing safety glasses.

Contributing Factors:

- PPE not being used correctly

Corrective Actions Required:

- All employees warned of the dangers of air and power tools
- All employees to be reminded of the hierarchy of control. Elimination, Substitution, Isolate, Engineering, Administrative, Personal Protective Equipment.
- **Field Officers to ensure that all employees are issued with Safety Glasses. Minimum 2 pairs. One in the tool kit and one protecting the eyes.**

Key Learning's:

- All activities that our employees undertake have an element of danger to them. It is how we manage the risk that is important.
- With the use of the Hierarchy of Controls we can prove that the best method of controlling this particular risk is to wear PPE.

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

For further information contact: Darren Gibson – OHS Manager 1300apprentice