



## Hazard Alert Memo – Equipment Pinch Points and Guarding Alert

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This memorandum is intended as a notice to managers, supervisors, and LHSCs to inspect all pulley and reel-type equipment for pinch points and missing guarding in order to prevent future accidents and maintain a safe work environment.

Local Health and Safety Co-Chairs are to distribute and document the discussion of this memo to their respective areas in their meeting minutes, and assist with hazard identification and control. Areas where hazards related to guarding and pinch points are not found should be documented as well in the minutes.

### ACCIDENT NOTIFICATION

On Sept. 1, 2016, a serious injury occurred to a worker from a pinch point on a tarp roller that was not adequately guarded. The equipment has been removed from service until further investigation of solutions.

A minor pinch point injury occurred on July 15, 2016 from a lane-rope reel.

### HAZARD RECOGNITION, EVALUATION, AND CONTROL

Respective department supervisors with an LHSC worker representative must inspect and document all pulley/reel-type equipment (powered or manual) for pinch points and absent guarding.

If an unguarded pinch point is identified, assess the risk of injury based of probability, exposure duration, and consequence severity.

PPE must also be evaluated for risk of entanglement. Gloves should only be worn when appropriate for the task, as the loose material may pull the person's hand into a pinch point.

Control measures include, but are not limited to:

- Lock-out/Tag-out the equipment until repaired/guarded
- Investigate supplier options for new guards or new/alternative equipment
- Investigate developing guarding in-house
- Mark pinch points to alert workers of the hazard
- Review training and procedures with operators, including correct PPE for the task.



### REQUIRED ACTION

Managers and Supervisor must:

1. Inspect equipment for unguarded pinch points
2. Document any hazard findings in an inspection record with recommended corrective actions for guarding against injury.
3. Send inspection reports to the LHSC for review and further action.

### RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

WorkSafeBC Resources:

- <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-04-general-conditions>
- <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/law-policy/occupational-health-safety/searchable-ohs-regulation/ohs-regulation/part-12-tools-machinery-and-equipment>
- <https://www.worksafebc.com/en/resources/health-safety/books-guides/safeguarding-machinery-and-equipment-general-requirements?lang=en&direct>

For assistance in inspecting the equipment or investigating corrective actions please contact Risk Management Services, and we will be glad to help. Thank you for your cooperation and effort to continually improving health and safety.

### Risk Management Services

336 – 2389 Health Sciences Mall; Vancouver, BC Canada V6T 1Z3

Contact: Tel 604 822 2029; Email [riskmanagement@rms.ubc.ca](mailto:riskmanagement@rms.ubc.ca)