



Putting People First Since 1948



Alert #: SA 10-16

Date: 7/8/2016

Avoiding Hand Injury

The root of this safety alert stems from an employee changing the tip of a paint gun and incurring a hand injury. While attempting to change the tip of the paint gun, the employee bumped the trigger while his finger was in front of the gun causing injury to his finger. This injury could have potentially been avoided by following policies and procedures and manufacturer's instruction.

Root Causes of the incident:

- ❖ Failure to stop and upgrade WP/SEA
 - Job scope changed to “replace spray gun tip” and this was not added to the WP/SEA as a new step in the job task.
- ❖ Failure to bleed down pressure
 - Paint lines were not cleaned and bled down prior to changing out the tip
 - Pressure was released onto IP's hand
- ❖ Failure to lock the Gun Trigger Safety

Necessary Actions:

- ❖ ALWAYS STOP AND UPGRADE THE WP/SEA WHEN CONDITIONS CHANGE
- ❖ Include Paint Gun Maintenance as a step on the WP/SEA
- ❖ Attach pressure relief procedure to WP/SEA for reference when performing any maintenance on Paint Gun
- ❖ Close all bleed-type master air valves including the bleed-type master air valve
- ❖ Bleed down pressure on lines before performing maintenance to paint guns
- ❖ Ensure Gun Trigger Safety is locked prior to changing out tip
- ❖ Isolate pressure to the pump prior to changing out tip
- ❖ Ensure understanding of Pressure Relief Procedure prior to the begin of work
- ❖ Always follow GIS policies and procedures
- ❖ Always follow manufacturer's instructions on handling and maintenance of equipment



NO MATTER HOW MINOR THE JOB SCOPE MAY BE, WE MUST STOP THE JOB AND UPGRADE THE WP/SEA WHEN CONDITIONS CHANGE!!!!!!



SAFETY ALERT