



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



Alert #: SA 03-25

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MODIFIED TOOL INJURES EMPLOYEE



Recently, employees were tasked with removing bolts from an 18” manway on a hot oil surge tank. An air impact and socket was used to perform this task. While setting up these tools, employees decided not to use the proper socket retainer which was available at the time in the Tool House. One employee used a piece of nine-wire to secure the socket to the impact wrench. The second employee inquired if the use of nine-wire was acceptable. The employees decided to proceed despite not using the correct safety device. As the bolts began to loosen, one of the employees adjusted his hand placement. The employee’s hand was struck against the flange by the nine-wire, injuring his thumb.

GIS POLICY LLCP-074 - HAND & PORTABLE POWER TOOLS specifically states: *“The Company restricts the use of all homemade tools of any kind. Use of any tools that are field fabricated or revised without consent of the manufacturer is strictly prohibited. An MOC is required to perform any tasks that requires the use of these types of tools.”*

A choice made in the interest of convenience turned out to be a choice that hurt a coworker. *“Putting People First”* means to make the right choice, everytime. When the correct parts and equipment are available, take the time to use them the right way, as described by the manufacturer.



SAFETY ALERT