



H S E

HEALTH SAFETY ENVIRONMENTAL



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Pinch Points

Hand placement is one of the most crucial safety issues in any industry, business, or in daily life that you will come across. No one has to tell you how important your hands are to daily life. Your hands make the most difficult of tasks much easier and simplify life in ways we take for granted each day. Protecting your hands may be the most important decision you make during the day and it could affect the rest of your life.

A pinch point is a place where the hand (or even the entire body) can be crushed between two moving objects, or between a moving object and a stationary one. Nationally they make up about 15% of all OSHA recordable injuries. At the same time they are preventable by focusing on the job and the possible consequences of your actions. Below are some tips on how you can minimize the chance of getting hurt by a pinch point situation

- Perform hazard analysis using the LAW on job tasks to identify pinch point hazards.
- Practice good housekeeping by keeping your workplace clean and orderly.
- Wear the right kind of gloves for the job.
- Travel only in designated traffic areas, and be constantly alert for moving equipment and vehicles.
- Never tamper with machine guards. In many cases, they protect you against pinch points in moving machinery and stock. Always replace guards after making repairs or adjustments to equipment.
- Follow your company's IHE (lockout/tagout) policy and procedures. These are designed to keep you from being injured by machinery that starts accidentally when you are cleaning, making adjustments or repairs.
- Secure materials so it cannot fall or roll. Stacked materials should be strapped, racked or interlocked so they cannot shift.
- Be careful when handling drums, rings, rebar and other metal objects.
- Beware of rolling hazards. This includes wheels on moving equipment, as well as stock such as stored pipe.
- Know how to turn off machinery in your work area in case of an emergency – seconds count.
- Don't wear jewelry or loose clothing when you are working near moving equipment
- Use doorknobs and drawer handles, to prevent slamming your finger in a pinch point.

ALWAYS KEEP ALL BODY PARTS FROM IN BETWEEN PINCH POINTS. Keep yourself clear of the line of fire. REMEMBER, participating in the LIFE Process aids in identifying and mitigating hazards, as well as eliminating at risk body positions. Utilize Stop Work Authority and upgrade JSEA's anytime a job tasks changes.

***Report all incidents immediately to the GIS Hotline
1-855-543-5163.***

SAFETY ALERT