

Safety Alert

Number: 21-13

Published: 12/08/2021

Subject: Hand Injury Sustained During Routine Checks

What Happened / Narrative

During routine weekly checks, the Injured Person (IP) was performing the weekly test for the Emergency Generator, he approached the generator to investigate an abnormal noise coming from the cooling fan, his fingers were struck by the fan blades and he sustained an injury to fingers 3, 4 & 5 (Middle, Ring, and little fingers) on his right hand.

Why Did it Happen / Cause

- Unsafe behaviour due to complacency
- Lack of situational awareness by the IP as he placed his hands in an area with a partly exposed rotating part
- The IP was a lone worker
- Partly unprotected fan

Corrective Actions Taken / Recommendations

- Modifications for the fan guard of the emergency generator to avoid any possibility of touching the fan and warning signs posted
- Situational Awareness training for all vessel crew
- Safety Stand Down/TOFS onboard all vessels addressing hand safety

Lesson(s) Learned:

- Always be aware of where your hands are at all times
- Always wear the appropriate PPE (including the right gloves for the job)
- Always identify all potential hand hazards (i.e., line of fire, pinch points) and take the appropriate mitigating steps during the planning stage of a job
- Always use Risk Assessment and Toolbox Talk as appropriate in all tasks, whether formal or informal
- Risk Assessment should be specific and identify the hazards and Toolbox Talk should discuss the task at hand with those involved
- Do not engage in any task, simple or complex, that you do not fully comprehend
- Follow Safety Rules

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Photographs / Supporting Information



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