

SAFETY Alert



01/2015

USE OF HAND TOOL / physical injury

DATE: January 2015

ISSUED BY: QHSE DEPARTMENT

OBJECT: USE OF HAND TOOL / physical injury

DESCRIPTION:

The maintenance operator was trying to unscrew a bolt using a pneumatic screwdriver. While pushing the hand tool, the screwing pivot displaced from the screwdriver and hit the operator on his left eye arch, causing an injury. He was immediately transported to the emergency point for medical care. After medical evaluation, the employee required some days off.

CONSEQUENCES

- dangerous situation created (injury exposure);
- impossibility to work (medical care and surgical sutures needed);
- stop of the activity;
- incident investigation (with root causes analysis).

CAUSES

- incorrect action / decision of the employee;
- lack of/inadequate training and/or information;
- underestimated risk.



CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Several measures implemented to avoid the repetition of other similar episodes:

Training:

- ✓ “use of hand tools” work instruction review - by all the concerned employees to provide a better understanding on the specific procedures;
- ✓ toolbox meeting concerning the incident to explain the exact circumstances and how to properly proceed when using hand tools.

Operating methods:

- ✓ use of facial shield for this type of operation becomes mandatory;
- ✓ focus on improving risk perception of the employees for manual operations / use of hand tools;
- ✓ review / integrity check undertaken for the tools and the associated supplies.