

Pinch Points and Hand Injuries

Picture This

When it comes to working or operating machinery with rotating parts, pinch point safety is imperative. In the work environment, pinch points are used to explain situations where hand tools, machines, and various conditions place body parts or a worker's entire body at risk.

01 WHAT ARE PINCH POINTS?



Pinch point hazards can be as narrow as the space between crane outriggers or as wide as a doorway. While there are countless machines that create pinch points, some of the most common include:

- Loaders
- Gears
- Conveyors
- And more

02 PREVENT INJURIES WITH AWARENESS

Know the dangers, and stay focused. Identify potential pinch point hazards with the use of safety labels, and include the identified pinch points in training material. A large number of workplace injuries are caused by distracted workers. Prevent injuries by reminding workers to pay attention to the task at hand.



03 GENERAL PINCH POINT SAFETY TIPS

OSHA suggests using machine guards to help prevent the likelihood of pinch point injuries. You can also provide comprehensive pinch point safety training on all of the equipment used on any given site. The training will help protect employees and teach everyone on the site about the hazards of pinch points and how to avoid those hazards.

A few additional pinch point safety tips to prevent injuries include:



Regularly inspect guards and machines often.



Only allow properly trained employees to maintain and operate equipment.



Never turn your back or walk away from a machine that is coasting or turned on.



Ensure all employees wear the necessary personal protective equipment.



Keep floors free of debris and clean to prevent trip and fall accidents.



Point out and discuss pinch point hazards as a regular facet of risk assessment meetings.

Source: <http://premiersafetypartners.com>