Pinch Points Stats and Facts

FACTS

- 1. Pinch points occur when a moving part of a machine or other equipment contacts or rubs against another part or surface.
- Pinch points are commonly found at a machine's point of operation, or where the work is performed, and near gears, rollers, weights, doors, hinges, hand tools, and lifting equipment.
- 3. Pinch points commonly impact fingers/hands, but can impact any area of the body. The injury resulting from a pinch point could be as minor as a blister or as severe as an amputation or death.
- 4. Employees in an industrial setting are at a high risk of these pervasive pinch point issues. They can occur with a variety of machines and devices, including power presses, conveyors, robotic machines, metal-forming machines, assembly machines and lines, printing presses.
- 5. Pinch points can lead to injuries with victims getting caught in conveyor belts, printing presses, powered rollers and doors, covers and hatches.

STATS

- Each year, workers suffer approximately 125,000 caught or crushed injuries that occur when body parts get caught between two objects or entangled with machinery.
- Of the millions of disabling accidents that happen on the job, one third of them are hand injuries. Approximately 80% of these hand injuries are caused by pinch points.
- According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, an estimated 110,000 workers suffer lost-time hand injuries each year in the United States. 70% of workers who suffered hand injuries weren't wearing gloves.
- More than 7 % of construction deaths were due to "caught-

in/between" accidents — when a person is caught in or compressed by equipment or objects or struck by, caught in or crushed by a collapsing structure, piece of equipment or material.

- About 10 % of hand injuries result from the improper use of hand tools, while 40 % are caused during the handling of materials.
- Five types of hand injuries are: lacerations (cuts), accounting for 63 % of the total; crush (13 %); avulsion (tearing of skin or soft tissue), accounting for 8 %; puncture (6 %); and fracture (5 %), according to the National Safety Council.