

TAKE CONTROL

Being Trapped in or Between Moving Machinery

Information to help you prevent workplace injury and disease.

By identifying causes and assessing and controlling risks you can take control of health and safety in your workplace.

Risk indicators in the workplace

Some things to look for include:

- Unguarded moving parts of machinery;
- Machine guards which are loose, incomplete or allow people to put parts of their body through, or climb over, under or around;
- Machinery which is able to be started without the guard being in its correct position;
- Machinery which is not maintained in good working order;
- Machinery which is able to be inadvertently started;
- Moving parts or controls which are difficult to see, possibly because of poor lighting;
- Untrained operators working with machinery;
- Cluttered or confined work areas at machines;
- Work practices which require employees to rush their work;
- Mobile machines and vehicles being operated outside of designated areas;
- Incorrect use of equipment.

Examples of what can be done to stop such occurrences from happening

Employers should, for example, make sure that:

- All moving parts of machinery are guarded and the guards cannot be readily removed;
- Guards are designed and constructed which prevent people (either whole body or parts of) coming in contact with moving parts during machine operation;
- Machine work areas are clearly defined, for example, by marking floor areas, and by limiting access to only those employees authorised to work with the machines;
- Safe working procedures are developed for all machinery and promoted in the workplace;
- All machinery is regularly inspected, serviced and tested by qualified persons;
- Controls are located within easy reach of the operator and cannot be unintentionally turned on;
- Work areas are well lit and uncluttered;

- Regular inspections of guarding integrity are carried out;
- Correct tools are used for the job.

To find out more

The [Workplace Health and Safety Act](#) and the [Workplace Health and Safety Regulations](#) outline the minimum standards and the process to manage occupational health and safety in your workplace.

Specific regulations to note in respect of this topic are:

Regulation 47	Access and Egress
Regulation 50	Safety signs
Regulation 87	Erection, installation and commissioning of plant

Australian Standards applicable to this topic include:

AS 1657	Fixed platforms, walkways, stairways and ladders – Design, construct and installation
AS 2153	Rules for guarding of agricultural tractors and machinery
AS 4024	Safeguarding of machinery
AS 1473	Guarding and safe use of woodworking machinery
AS 1319	Safety signs for the occupational environment
AS 1219	Power presses – safety requirements
AS 1121	Guards for agricultural tractor PTO drives
AS 1893	Code of practice for the guarding and safe use of metal and paper cutting guillotines.

NT WorkSafe kindly acknowledges WorkCover SA.

For further information please contact NT Worksafe on 1800 019 115 or visit www.worksafe.nt.gov.au