

TAKE CONTROL

Being Hit by Moving Objects

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 or inadequately guarded machinery which generates flying objects such as splinters, metal fragments and dust;
- Crowded work areas in which there are moving vehicles;
- Objects or weapons wielded by another person;
- Equipment not maintained in effective working order;
- Lack of appropriate protective equipment, such as safety glasses to protect eyes from splinters of wood, metal, concrete or sparks;
- No warning lights or beepers on moving vehicles, such as forklifts;
- Uncontrolled movement of people at a firing range;
- No warning mirrors fitted at intersections along which people and vehicles move; and
- Inadequate lighting.

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

Employers should, for example, make sure that:

- Machinery is guarded to prevent flying objects from being produced, and if this cannot be achieved, then barriers installed to prevent them flying into the general work area;
- Safe operating procedures are developed and implemented;
- Mobile vehicles are fitted with reversing lights and beepers;
- Clear designated walkways are established and people and mobile equipment are kept separate as far as possible;
- Mirrors and other warning devices are installed at intersections;
- In situations where there is a likelihood that clients may wield weapons, employees are trained in appropriate safe responses of the potential hazard situations;
- Work areas are well lit; and
- Appropriate personal protective equipment is provided, such as face shields.

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 71	Personal Protective Equipment
Regulation 73	Areas to be Signposted
Regulation 75	Head Protection
Regulation 76	Eye Protection
Regulation 80	Foot Protection
Regulation 84	Design of plant
Regulation 85	Manufacture of plant
Regulation 86	Importation and supply of plant
Regulation 87	Erection, installation and commissioning of plant

Australian Standards applicable to this topic include:

AS 1742	Manual for uniform traffic control devices
SAA HB 9	Manual of industrial personal protection

NT WorkSafe kindly acknowledges WorkCover SA.

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