



PARTNERING WITH TOWNSHIPS

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS RISK MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION **RISK REMINDER**

The Perils of Working Around MOVING EQUIPMENT

The purpose of this Risk Reminder is to raise employee's awareness to the potential dangers associated while working with or around moving mechanical equipment.

Human factors can lead to dangerous outcomes while working around moving equipment, as we can lose the respect or fear for the powerful nature of the equipment within our environment. It's essential that all affected recognize the hazards that exist with the equipment in their environment.

There are numerous potential hazards while working with or around machinery, one of which is making contact with moving parts.



Contact with moving parts. Machines operate by rotating or reciprocating motions or by a combination of both. Physical contact with these moving parts can lead to lacerations, amputations, fractures and sprains.

The two motions of moving equipment are: Rotating parts or shafts and reciprocating movement.

Rotating parts and shafts can catch hair, body parts or clothing, which can draw the operator into the point of operation and seriously mangle or crush the operator. They can also force an arm or hand into a dangerous position breaking bones and lacerating or severing a hand or other parts of a limb.

Operators can be caught and crushed by **reciprocating movement** when the moving part approaches or crosses a fixed part of the machine.

Every attempt is made to guard any moving part, however employee's personal protective equipment, dress and hair can also play an important role.

Please be aware: Loose-fitting clothing and long hair can become entangled in rotating parts or other kinds of moving machinery. Long hair should be pulled back or tucked within clothing so that it does not become entangled with the equipment. Jewelry such as bracelets and rings can also catch on machine parts or stock and cause serious injury.

For more information, contact your Loss Control Consultant at (888) 562-7861

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