

## Hazard Identification and Injury Prevention

1. Machines with unguarded cutting blades (at the point of operation) can cause amputations and other serious injuries.

### 2. Is There a Hazard?

- ☐ Has the safety of the machinery at your worksite been evaluated?
- ☐ Does any part of your body come near the cutting blades when the machine is on?
- ☐ Are there other potential hazards during machine use such as flying rock chips?
- ☐ Have you notified your supervisor/ employer if the stone-cutting machine you are using does not appear to be safe?

### 3. How to Prevent Injuries:

- ☐ Is some type of guarding in place to prevent worker access to cutting blades when the machine is in use?  
These methods may include retrofitting stone cutting machines with two-handed controls or starting mechanisms.
- ☐ Are regular inspections and maintenance conducted on the machines?
- ☐ Is appropriate personal protective equipment for all identified machine-related hazards provided (e.g., safety glasses, protective gloves, etc.)?
- ☐ Are information, training and supervision offered to workers on the safe work practices when operating or servicing stone-cutting machines?
- ☐ Do operators and maintenance personnel know about the:
  - Hazards associated with particular machine operations?
  - Purpose and proper application of machine guarding methods?
  - Proper use of personal protective equipment?
  - Hazards related to wearing loose-fitting clothing, jewelry, or other items that could become entangled in the machines?
  - Importance of not allowing workers other than the machine operator near the machine when it is in use?
  - The need to contact a supervisor if a machine guard is not working as it should?

### 4. Conclusion:

- ☐ Amputation hazards can be prevented by:
  - Equipping stone cutters and splitters with two-hand controls or other devices that will prevent worker access to the point of operation.
  - Providing adequate training in the safe operation of stone splitters.
- ☐ Eye and face injuries can be prevented by providing and enforcing the use of adequate eye and face protection.

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