

23 June, 2009

SAFETY ALERT

Operator Pinned between Parent / Hard Roll and Safety Fence

An operator was recently pinned between a parent/hard roll and a safety fence when the roll moved forward unexpectedly. The operator suffered bruising and soreness but was able to return to work on alternative duties.

The operator was dressing the roll in preparation for loading into the machine. There were two (2) rolls in the staging bay, one (1) of which was being dressed by the operator. A forklift then delivered a third into the bay. When exiting the immediate area the forklift struck the rolls, causing them to move forward and trap the operator against the safety fence.

An immediate investigation was carried out and the following causal factors identified.

- Forklift driver did not see the operator
- Constricted area
- Door opening mechanism does not identify forklifts in the area
- Too many rolls in area
- No 'safe zone' between the roll and fence

Corrective Actions

The following corrective actions have been identified and implemented.

- Dome mirror fitted to improve visibility of operators on this machine and others on site
- Floor markings to be improved
- Only two (2) rolls in the staging bay at any time
- SOPs updated to include only two (2) rolls in staging bay at any time and operator to cease dressing rolls and exit bay when forklift is present
- Creation of a safety zone with the installation of two (2) bollards, one metre out from the safety fence
- Door operation to be reviewed
- Site-wide pre-operation check system by fork lift drivers
- Other machine hard/parent roll staging bays to be reviewed.

For further information please contact:

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