



# SAFETY SHARE OF THE MONTH

## PINCH POINT SAFETY AWARENESS

A ***pinch point*** is where two objects come together and a body part, most commonly the fingers and hands, can get caught. While pinch point hazards most often involve the fingers and hands, they can also affect other parts of the body. ***Pinch points*** are common workplace hazards that can lead to serious injury, amputations, and even death on the job site.

***Pinch point*** injuries most commonly involve the fingers and hands. Minor types of ***pinch point*** injuries include cuts, bruises, blisters, and contusions. More serious types of ***pinch point*** injuries include amputations, lacerations, broken bones, and even death.

A ***pinch point*** injury can happen when:

- ***Reaching into machinery or equipment with moving parts***
- ***Walking or working in areas with mobile equipment***
- ***Not paying attention to the location of hands or feet***
- ***Equipment or safety guards are in poor condition***
- ***Clothing, jewelry, or hair gets caught or tangled***

It's extremely important for everyone to take personal responsibility and be able to recognize pinch point hazards in order to prevent injuries. To help keep workers safe from ***pinch point*** injuries, be sure to carefully inspect all machinery and equipment to identify potential ***pinch point*** hazards.

### ***Tips to avoid pinch point hazards***

- ***Never place your hands where you can't see them***
- ***Pay close attention around moving parts***
- ***Never walk away from machines that are turned on or in motion***
- ***Securely block equipment or parts where stored energy can be released***
- ***Check machine and tool safety guards***
- ***Follow Lock Out/Tag Out Procedures***
- ***Wear proper PPE***

