

SAFETY ALERT

Incident Title:

Rigging Chain Injury

Date of Incident:

May 2016

Incident Description and Details:

A worker was disconnecting chains from an auger drill bit above his head and as the worker exerted force on the chain to remove it, the hook of the chain 'whipped up' and hit the worker in the mouth causing a cut to his upper lip. Medical treatment was required and the Contractor returned to work.

Recommendations/Lessons:

- Hazard recognition was discussed at the next pre-start meeting including correct use and handling of rigging equipment.
- The Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) was amended to ensure that chains are lowered to the ground first for safe removal chains rather than pulling the string.

With some minor variations to the circumstances this incident could have had a very different outcome if the hook had contacted with the workers eye.

**NOTE:**

The purpose of a SWMS is to identify all potential hazards associated with a task and to apply controls to prevent exposure to worker health and safety.



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Alert Number: 0008