



IUEC INCIDENT SUMMARY

CLOSE CALLS, NEAR MISSES AND INJURIES
STRUCK BY INJURY

“INJURY”

April 28th 2023---IUEC Safety Stand Down Day



Description of Incident

Control Type: Electric

Machine Type: Gearless

Speed: 350 FPM

Capacity: 4500 lbs

Rise: 5 stop

Hoistway Configuration: Simplex



- Two mechanics were preparing to set a machine on a traction modernization
- One mechanic was on the cartop, the other was in the machine room
- They were cleaning up the rough concrete around the cable drops which had to be relocated due to a new machine that was being installed
- The mechanic in the machine room set up a roto hammer with a chipping bit but forgot to set the switch to hammer. When he pulled the trigger, the chipping bit spun and the mechanic realized his mistake. As the bit was winding to a stop his gloved left hand slid down the body of the hammer drill and was sucked into the spinning chipping bit
- The bit or chuck grabbed his glove and twisted his fingers around the bit. The mechanic was wearing gloves with a sticky rubberized palm. Luckily, he was able to free his fingers from the bit.
- The mechanic was taken to an onsite medical facility, then transported to the hospital where it was discovered he had three dislocated fingers and severe damage to a tendon in his left hand
- The fingers were reset, and the tendon was surgically repaired. The mechanic is expected to be off work for up to eight weeks.



Recommendations and Lessons Learned



- Always follow the company safety policy
- Always perform a JHA/JSA as per company policy
- Always follow manufactures recommendations for proper use of power tools

- Possible root causes:
 - Improper use of power tool

- Field Employees' Safety Handbook
- Section 9 - Tools
- 9.2 Portable Electric Tools and Lights
 - (b) Power tools, portable lights or cord sets shall be protected by GFCI's
 - (p) Hand-held power tools shall not be equipped with a "dead man" control. It may have a lock-on control provided turn off can be accomplished by a single motion of the same finger that turns it on.

- OSHA 1926.300 General requirements
 - (c) Personal protective equipment. Employees using hand and power tools and exposed to the hazards of falling, flying, and splashing objects, or exposed to harmful dusts, fumes, mists, vapors, or gasses shall be provided with the particular personal equipment necessary to protect them from the hazard. All personal protective equipment shall meet the requirements and be maintained according to subparts D and E of this part.