

Company fined after employee injured by machinery

An agricultural engineering company was fined for serious safety failings after a worker was injured at its premises near Blackburn, Lancashire.

Preston Magistrates Court heard how, on 25 November 2016, a 17-year-old trainee was working for Malcolm E Taylor Ltd at the company's site in Langho when he was pulled into machinery used to make cladding for agricultural buildings.

The employee's left arm became trapped between the metal sheeting he was holding and rollers as it was fed into the machine. The young worker suffered extensive damage to his left forearm, leaving him in chronic pain and with significant impairment to the use of his arm.

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigation found that it was possible for employees to reach dangerous parts of the roll-forming machine when it was in operation as Malcolm E Taylor Ltd had failed to suitably guard the machine.

Malcolm E Taylor Ltd of Mellor Brook, Blackburn pleaded guilty to breaching Regulation 11(1) of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. The company was fined £12,000 and ordered to pay costs of £2,967.82.

Following the case, HSE inspector Anthony Banks said:

"The dangers of unguarded machinery are well-known. If Malcolm E Taylor Ltd had ensured that suitable guarding was in place, then this incident would have been avoided.

Companies should be aware that HSE will not hesitate to take enforcement action when the required standards are not met".

Notes to Editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. It aims to reduce work-related death, injury and ill health. It does so through research, information and advice, promoting training; new or revised regulations and codes of practice, and working with local authority partners by inspection, investigation and enforcement. hse.gov.uk
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: legislation.gov.uk/
3. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>
4. More information about machinery guarding can be found at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/toolbox/machinery/safety.htm>
5. Regulation 11(1) of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 states: "Every employer shall ensure that measures are taken to (a) prevent access to any dangerous part of machinery or to any rotating

stock-bar; or (b) to stop the movement of any dangerous part of machinery or rotating stock-bar before any part of a person enters a danger zone.”

Journalists should approach HSE press office with any queries on regional press releases.