

Manufacturer fined after employee injured on lathe

A Lancashire manufacturer was fined after an employee was pulled into a metalworking lathe whilst applying emery cloth by hand.

Sefton Magistrates' Court heard that on 8 February 2019, Stephen Blackburn, an employee of Blackstar Handling Systems Limited was applying emery cloth by hand to a lathe to smooth down a pre-fabricated shaft, at the company's site in Skelmersdale. His arm was pulled into the machine, sustaining an open fracture, resulting in numerous surgeries including skin grafts.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that Blackstar Handling Systems Limited had not recognised that the unsafe method of using hand held emery cloth on lathes was custom and practice among their employees. The company failed to provide a suitable and sufficient risk assessment and so did not identify and put in place control measures, or provide training in an alternative safe method of working, such as using a suitable tool post to handle emery cloth.

Blackstar Handling Systems Limited of Douglas Bank House, Wigan Lane, Lancashire, pleaded guilty of breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The company was fined £20,000 and ordered to pay costs of £3689.60

HSE inspector Catherine Lyon said after the hearing "This injury was easily preventable, and the risk should have been identified.

"Employers should make sure they properly assess and apply effective control measures to minimise the risk from dangerous parts of machinery."

Notes to Editors:

1. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) is Britain's national regulator for workplace health and safety. We prevent work-related death, injury and ill health through regulatory actions that range from influencing behaviours across whole industry sectors through to targeted interventions on individual businesses. These activities are supported by globally recognised scientific expertise. www.hse.gov.uk
2. More about the legislation referred to in this case can be found at: www.legislation.gov.uk/
3. More information about the use of emery cloth on metalworking lathes can be found at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/engineering/lathes.htm>
4. HSE news releases are available at <http://press.hse.gov.uk>

The post [Manufacturer fined after employee injured on lathe](#) appeared first on [HSE Media Centre](#).

Council and bus company fined after fatal collision involving a bus passenger

A local council, and a bus company were fined after a passenger was killed when run over by a lorry at the bus station.

St Albans Crown Court heard how on 13 February 2015, Nicola Berridge stepped off the bus and was run over by a grab lorry as she walked across a pedestrian crossing at the bus station. She suffered fatal injuries. The grab lorry was delivering sand to a contractor as the bus station had been demolished and was being reconstructed at the time.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found that the visibility at this crossing was obstructed by buses which had been permitted to park on double-yellow lines between the crossings for several years. Bedford Borough Council and Cambus Limited, a bus station operator failed to coordinate and cooperate with one another to manage pedestrian and vehicle interaction within the bus station. They had joint responsibility to assess the risk to members of the public from vehicle movements within the bus station and to put in place reasonable measures to reduce that risk so far as was reasonably practicable.

Bedford Borough Council of Cauldwell Street, Bedford pleaded guilty to breaching Section 3(1) of Health and Safety at Work Act, was fined £300,000 and ordered to pay costs of £ 16,803.59.

Cambus Limited of Cowley Road, Cambridge pleaded not guilty to breaching Section 3(1) of Health and Safety at Work Act, was found guilty and fined £350,000 and ordered to pay costs which are still to be agreed

Speaking after the hearing HSE inspector Emma Page said: "There were inadequate control measures in place to segregate vehicles and pedestrians at the site and lack of proper planning in terms of pedestrian access and egress to the bus station.

"Hazards associated with vehicles and pedestrians in the same location, particularly the case in a facility such as a bus station in the centre of a busy town, are well known and easily controlled using reasonably practicable precautions."

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[Manufacturing company fined after employee loses fingers](#)

A manufacturing company has been fined after a worker's hand was damaged whilst carrying out machinery repairs.

Manchester Magistrates' Court heard how, on 27 July 2018, an employee of Preston Board and Packaging Limited was trying to repair a cardboard slitting machine. Whilst in the process of lifting a chain back onto a sprocket, a roller attached to the chain dropped to the base of the machine trapping his fingers under the chain, resulting in his left-hand ring finger and the tip of his middle finger being severed.

An investigation by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) found there was no risk assessment or safe system of work in place for replacing/repairing safety wires and chains on the slitter machine.

Preston Board and Packaging Limited, Green Bank Street, Preston pleaded guilty to breaching section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974. The company was fined £33,500 and ordered to pay costs of £5,527.16.

HSE inspector Mike Lisle said after the hearing "This injury was easily preventable. The task had been carried out a number of times previously and the risks should have been identified. Employers should properly risk assess machinery operations then apply effective control measures and robust safe systems of work to minimise the risk to employees from dangerous parts of machinery".

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WALES HEALTH AT WORK PARTNERSHIP IS LAUNCHED

Two of the biggest health issues facing Wales' working population – wellbeing and mental health and musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) – were being explored at a multi-agency conference in Llandudno today.

The Wales Health at Work Summit 2019 was particularly focussed on helping small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) to address these issues and attendees heard from a wide range of speakers across government and industry.

The Summit was hosted by the newly-formed Wales Health at Work Partnership (WHWP), a coalition of organisations committed to improving workplace health and wellbeing in Wales.

Members of WHWP include the Welsh Government, Public Health Wales and its 'Healthy Working Wales' programme, the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA), the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and social partners.

Outlining its future agenda at today's launch the WHWP set itself several objectives to support Welsh business – including SMEs and 'micros' – and its workforce by:

- Promoting new and existing initiatives in Wales to improve health at work and mental wellbeing.
- Sharing approaches, tools, and workplace experience for managing the risk, and reducing the incidence, of the major causes of occupational ill health in Wales.
- Gathering and acting on information regarding additional health support needed by Wales' working population.
- Developing a co-ordinated and sustainable approach to underpin the work of the Partnership.

Welcoming people to today's event, Summit Chair, Public Health Wales' Jyoti Atri said: "Today's event marks an important landmark. It brings together

practitioners from across the public health and workplace health boundary. Working together we will bring improved outcomes for health and wellbeing through work.”

HSE’s deputy director of the Health and Work Programme, Peter Brown said: “Health is a complex area and, as we all know, health improvements are not delivered in one day. That’s as true for HSE’s own role, preventing work-related ill health, as for any other, and makes partnership working all the more important. HSE is therefore delighted to be a part of today’s launch.”

Councillor Dafydd Meurig (Gwynedd), WLGA Spokesperson for Regulatory Services added: “This summit is an important step forward – but it’s the beginning of a process, not the end. Ill health in Welsh workplaces continues to take a heavy toll. Our end goal must be to see lasting improvements, so we urge all those with a shared interest to join us in this mission”.

WHWP told the conference that it recognised the importance of healthy and safe workplaces for good public health and believes its role will be pivotal in delivering lasting beneficial change for Welsh businesses and their employees.

Attendees were asked to capitalise on today’s summit and bring WHWP members together with the wider health and work community to explore all possibilities for future collaboration.

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1. The Wales Health at Work Summit is jointly funded by the Welsh Government – through Healthy Working Wales – and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). It is particularly focussed on small to medium sized enterprises (SMEs) – and on the ‘SME intermediaries’ that support or link to SMEs – and on helping meet their health needs.
2. The membership of the Wales Health at Work Partnership (WHWP) currently comprises:
 - Welsh Government
 - Public Health Wales
 - Business Wales
 - Director of Public Protection – Wales Representative
 - Health & Safety Executive
 - Federation of Small Businesses – Wales
 - Local Authority Health & Safety Expert Panel
 - Wales TUC
 - Welsh Local Government Association
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