

Incident Learning: What happened?

- On Thursday, 7 March 2019 at about 10:45am a contractor worker sustained a finger laceration whilst unbolting a pipe manifold (spool) using two ring spanner. One spanner was used to lock the bolt in position and the other to loosen the nut. The spanner holding the bolt in position slipped off the bolt head resulting in the worker's finger getting pinched between the spanner and the spool piece. The contractor worker who was wearing hand protection, sustained a laceration to the left ring finger. The worker required medical attention and was treated at a nearby hospital before returning to work the same day.

Key Communication Points

1. Ensure that the risk assessment incorporates all aspects of the job.
2. Review body positioning to ensure that no body part is placed in the in the line of fire.
3. Consider substituting the standard spanner for an extended spanner as per hierarchy of controls.
4. Ensure that the PPE used is adequate or sufficient for the task being performed.