

SAFETY AWARENESS

Brief Topic Safety Refresher Training For Associates

2024

Lathe Safety

Just because a piece of equipment is frequently used doesn't mean that it's okay to be careless in how you handle and operate it.

Lathes are often used in many different types of manufacturing for both production and maintenance, but these machines and their moving parts are serious hazards.

Entanglement

One of the primary hazards when it comes to using lathes is entanglement. The equipment has several different possible risk areas including the spinning chuck and the rotating stock, which can easily grab or trap clothing, jewelry, hair and even your hands.

Follow these tips to avoid entanglement accidents:

- Guard or shield the spinning chuck as much as possible while operating a lathe.
- Use clear guards so that you can still observe the machine.
- Avoid loose-fitting clothing and jewelry and tie your hair back or up to keep it away from rotating parts.



Ejected Material

Rotating pieces in lathes can grab and latch onto things, causing entanglement, but the speed of the rotation also creates significant force that can result in projectiles being flung out at dangerous speeds. These projectiles could be part of the lathe itself or even a cutting tool.

To prevent an injury involving ejected material, follow these tips:

- Make sure tools are being used and adjusted properly.
- Hold hand-held tools firmly.
- Make sure that guards and shields are in place.
- If turning wood, make sure that the piece is not damaged and be certain that any glued joints are dry.

Chips

As lathes cut and shape your material, it is possible that chips of the material will be thrown off. Avoid suffering an injury from these chips with the following tips:

- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for your eyes.
- Practice good housekeeping, and clean chips off the floor so that they do not become a slip hazard.
- Make sure that guards and shields are in place.

