

# NZ Safety Alert

Let's work together to keep ourselves and our workers safe.

6 October 2023

## Worker injured cutting steel

A worker was cutting steel when the clamp holding the steel released unexpectedly.

A piece of steel jumped uncontrollably and struck the worker in the face causing a laceration to his nose.

The worker was not wearing any face protection while cutting the steel.



[MinEx statistics](#) on incidents with the potential to cause harm over the past 5 years show 14% of incidents (874 incidents) result in an occupational injury.

### You need to ensure that:

1. All plant is fundamentally stable before commencing maintenance work. Clamps should be checked before cutting begins.
2. Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is always worn when carrying out tasks that require it to be worn.
3. Regular workplace inspections are conducted to identify unsafe activities and ensure work is conducted safely and in accordance with safe operating procedures.

**Know of an incident or near miss? Please share the learnings with us.**