

Minimizing Amputation Hazards

Amputations are some of the most serious and debilitating workplace injuries and can be caused by a variety of activities and equipment.

With this in mind, it's vital for employees like you to understand common amputation hazards and take steps to prevent them.

Common Amputation Hazards

While amputation hazards can stem from a range of tasks, they are most commonly associated with using certain machine components (e.g., points of operation, power-transmission apparatuses and other moving parts) and deploying specific mechanical motions (e.g., rotating, reciprocating, cutting, punching, shearing and bending). These hazards can also frequently arise during material-handling activities and when using equipment such as forklifts, trash compactors and hand tools.

Preventing Amputations

To reduce the risk of experiencing amputations on the job, consider the following best practices:

- Wear the required personal protective equipment (PPE) for the task at hand. Ensure the proper use, maintenance and storage of this PPE.
- Make sure machinery and other equipment have effective safety guards in place. Don't remove or tamper with these guards.
- Inspect machinery and other equipment before each use. Never use damaged equipment.

For more information on amputation hazards, consult your supervisor.

Being struck by or caught in moving machinery accounts for approximately 13% of workplace fatalities in Ontario, according to the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board.

If you have questions specific to your business, or would like additional information, please reach out to your Lloyd Sadd Advisor.

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**LET US HELP YOU
MANAGE YOUR RISK**

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