

## **Hazard Summary**

**Laceration Injuries** 

A young worker was using a meat-cutting machine in a deli when he heard a noise behind him. He turned around to see where the noise was coming from. The worker lost his focus and cut his finger on the machine blade.

The young worker reported the incident to the WSCC and it opened a claim. The worker missed six days of work due to his injuries.

## Safe Work Practices:

- As a worker, one of your essential workplace rights is the right to know. You have the right to know how to do your job safely and to receive jobsite specific training. Make sure you know how to use workplace machines and equipment;
- Before you start-using pieces of equipment or machinery, always make sure they are in good working order. If they need maintenance, do not use them and tell your supervisor immediately;
- Some machines have specific attachments designed to reduce the risk of injury. Examples of this are blade guards and power pedals. A blade guard protects the operator's hands from oscillating blades while in use. There are varieties of blade guards. If you are not sure whether your machine has one or which one to use, ask your supervisor. Power pedals automatically stop machines when the operator walks away;
- Always pay attention to what you are doing and keep distractions to a minimum. Even small kitchen knives can inflict serious injury.

The WSCC is committed to safety. For more information on workplace health and safety, call us toll-free or visit our website.

