



TOOLBOX

SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 32 - No 15 PAYING ATTENTION AT THE JOB

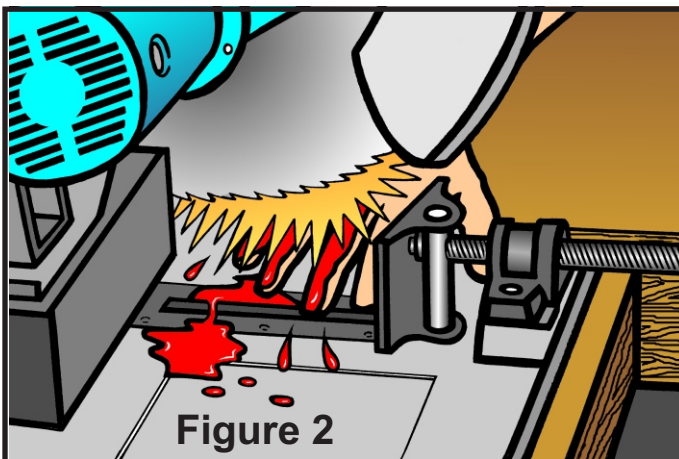
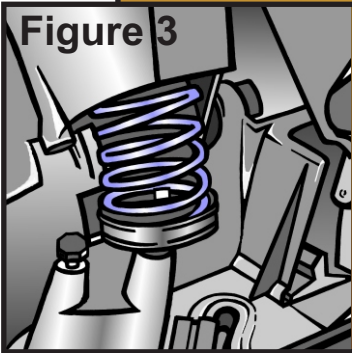
Figure 1



No matter how much we love them, our jobs tend to become a little redundant. Not many people can say after a few years their jobs are still interesting. With that in mind, there is no wonder how we can show up for work and run on auto pilot.

In the construction industry, you cannot afford to put your day-to-day routine on auto pilot. Case in point, a shop hand for an A/C company was completing a work order. Since all the duct work is pre-fabricated, the shop is set up like an assembly line. This employee's position in the line was the cutting station. During his shift, he worked diligently cutting "z-channel" steel with a chop saw (Figure 1). He reached for the piece just cut to place it with the rest of the materials. As he grabbed the piece, the chop saw fell onto his hand, cutting three fingers of his right hand (Figure 2).

Fortunately, the blade of the saw had already begun to slow down and stopped rotating before it could reach the bone. He was rushed to the emergency clinic where he received a total of ten stitches. He was allowed to return to work the same day. After an inspection, the shop foreman found the spring that retracts and holds the blade to its "safety" position was missing (Figure 3).



You cannot afford to go through the day on auto pilot. This accident could have been prevented. You should always start your shift with an inspection of your work area and tools. Check for potential hazards and defects and remove any tool that is not good working condition. Have the tool marked and removed from service until it is repaired. NEVER reach across any blade.

1926.300(a) Condition of tools. All hand and power tools and similar equipment, whether furnished by the employer or the employee, shall be maintained in a safe condition.



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Figure 3

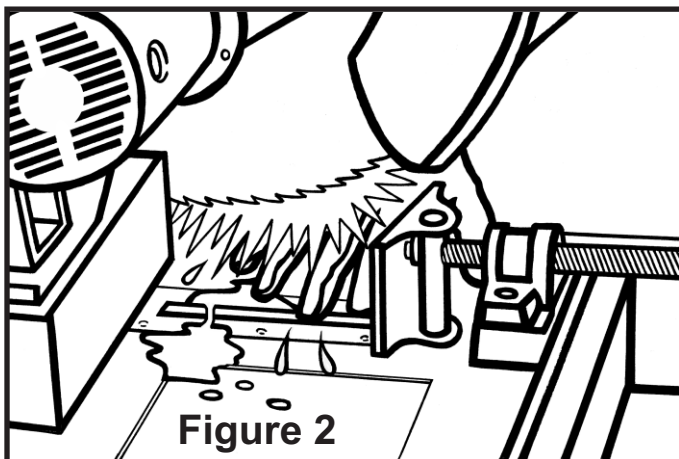
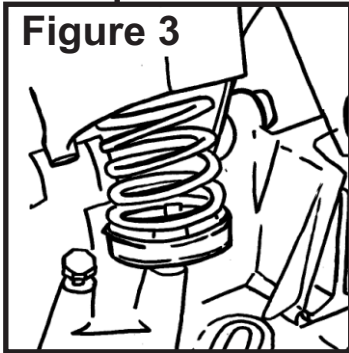


Figure 2

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