



SAFETY ALERT

IOSHA Alert — Grinder Wire Wheel Incident

RISK MANAGEMENT & SAFETY

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Category: Machine Guarding and Shop Safety
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Description

A recent (non-ND) injury while operating a grinder with a wire wheel prompted Indiana OSHA (IOSHA) to send an internal hazard alert to its employees, Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) Participants and others calling special attention to this incident. The following example details the recent event and provides requirements on restrictions to loose articles of clothing while using rotating tools or equipment and actions to take to prevent such an occurrence at the University.

Injury While Operating Rotating Equipment

- An employee's hoodie string got caught in the wire wheel of a grinder. The wheel walked up his chest, face, and neck, missing his carotid artery by about one-half an inch.
- **Photo 1** shows an example of a wire wheel affixed to a grinder.
- **Photo 2** shows a typical hoodie and strings.

Photo 1



Photo 2



Requirements

The University's Machine Guarding and Shop Safety Procedure requires the following work area attire:

- ⇒ Loose shirt material such as long sleeves or shirttails shall be tucked in, rolled up, or otherwise secured to prevent contact with moving parts.
- ⇒ Other material such as **neckties, scarves, hood strings** shall not be worn when in machine/shop areas or around moving and rotating machine parts.

Required Actions

- Review and enforce proper attire requirements with personnel operating tools or equipment with rotating parts:
 - ◇ No gloves, jewelry, loose clothing, neckties, scarves or hood strings;
 - ◇ Tie back hair;
 - ◇ Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (e.g. safety glasses).

For additional information on the University's machine guarding and shop safety requirements, please click [here](#).

All safety communications can be found at <https://riskmanagement.nd.edu/communication/>.