



STURGEON SAFETY ALERT

Sturgeon's Colorado C&I group suffered its fourth OSHA recordable injury on November 5, at Denver Health.

Employee was using a Milwaukee cordless V28 Sawzall reciprocating saw (shown here) to demo flex in wall while performing customer requested rework to relocate a panel we had already installed. While performing the necessary demolition, the blade of the sawzall got pinched, causing the sawzall to move in lieu of the blade. This abrupt bucking motion caused the employee's hand to slip over the molded hand guard, with the ring finger of his left hand entering the unprotected area between the ram and the housing of the blade, tearing open a deep cut on the tip of finger.



Employee was wearing proper PPE (hard hat, safety glasses, leather gloves, safety vest and hard toed boots).

Contributing factors to this injury were the awkward angle/position of the sawzall and the inadequate protection around the large opening in ram and housing area.

The Safety Committee is investigating other brands of reciprocating saws to determine if there is a model with more effective hand and finger protection covering this area, which they could recommend to the Tool Room. They have identified a corded model with very good protection.



Due to the large number of cordless Milwaukee sawzalls on our jobsites, it is recommended that use and safety concerns regarding this tool be a topic for discussion during Foreman Morning Huddles anytime this tool is to be used.



