



Safety Advice 01-2014 (UK) (Jan) (Generation) Grinder, Loose Clothing, Strangulation

The following Safety Bulletin courtesy of ENA UK outlines a strangulation incident involving loose clothing entangled in rotating grinder tool fitting. The full safety advice follows below.

+++++

Safety Bulletin;

Fatality due to Strangulation – External to GDF Suez Group

Bulletin No	Date	Severity	Potential	Likelihood of reoccurrence
FOGAP UK 062	05/12/2013	FATALITY	FATALITY	POSSIBLE

Description:

- A contractor worker was working to eliminate rust on a 1 inch piping with a power wire brush before painting.
- The victim was wearing a neck muff to keep warm from cold weather.
- The neck muff rolled into the power wire brush and the victim was suffocated by being strangled his respiratory tract by the muff around the neck

Reason / Immediate Cause:

Loose clothing been worn whilst using open / unguarded rotating equipment.

Core reason / root cause:

Awareness of the potential hazards from the IP. Lack of or poor supervision. Poor working practices

Picture(s) / Sketch



Hand held angle grinder with wire wheel attachment and part of entangled garment



Work location of the fatal incident

Actions:

- Immediate CPR(Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation) and AED(Automated External Defibrillator) were done at the location of the accident.
- Victim was taken to hospital by ambulance.

FOGAP

Ensure that the basic details of this tragic incident are communicated to all relevant employees. This is a timely reminder of the hazards associated with using rotating equipment and the potential for entanglement with parts of external clothing especially cords from coats and hooded shirts, scarves etc.

Supervision to be vigilant during periods of cold weather to try to identify individuals who may be wearing inappropriate items whilst operating any form of work equipment.

IF YOU think it is unsafe
STOP the work

